

O'ahu County Democrats, Resolution 2015-01:

Title: **Public Disclosure Of Commercial Pesticide Use Schedules And Community Master Plan Buffer Zones**

Whereas, Numbers of large-scale, outdoor commercial agricultural operations in Hawai'i have been rapidly growing; and

Whereas, Unlike the majority of Hawai'i's farmers, these operations regularly apply high volumes of restricted use pesticides into the environment; and

Whereas, Information regarding the intensive use of pesticides in large-scale commercial agriculture within the State is not readily available to the public; and

Whereas, The public is unable to evaluate the full extent of any impacts affecting to Hawai'i's environment or its residents and to decide whether the risks associated with the large-scale use of pesticides is acceptable; and

Whereas, Public disclosure requirements are inadequate for outdoor applications of pesticides in proximity to schools and childcare facilities, by certain commercial agricultural entities; and

Whereas, Pesticide buffer zones are needed in community master planning to identify locations of large commercial use farms near sensitive community areas; and

Whereas, Identification of commercial research and production of any seed, crop, plant, timber, large and small livestock, fish, bees and apiary products should be publicly disclosed and now; therefore, be it

Resolved, That O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i support the disclosure and public posting of any outdoor pesticide application by large commercial agricultural users to residents of sensitive areas and also support the identification utilizing buffer zones through community master plans; and be it

Resolved, That O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge notification to occupants and residents of sensitive areas be conducted within a minimum of twenty-four hours prior to the outdoor application of any pesticide; and be it

Resolved, That O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge any commercial agricultural entity shall provide written notification to any sensitive area and any property owner, lessee, or person otherwise occupying any residential property within designated buffer zones identified through updated community master plans; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be sent to all Hawai'i State Legislators of the island of O'ahu, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, State Department of Agriculture, State Board of Agriculture, State Department of Health, State Board of Health, State Department of Human Services, Mayor of Honolulu, the City and County of Honolulu Council, and all other relevant government and non-government organizations as determined by the O'ahu County Chair.

Adopted May 2, 2015

O'ahu County Democrats, Resolution 2015-02

Title: **Calling on the U.S. Congress to Amend the United States Constitution to Enable Citizens' Voices to be Heard without Undue Influence of Powerful Economic Forces**

Whereas, The Supreme Court of the United States, in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 558 U.S. 310 (2010) (*Citizens United*) removed restrictions on amounts of independent political spending; and

Whereas, The platform of the O'ahu County Democrats support limitations on political, campaign or issue related donations by organizations, corporations, and individuals and, further, that supports the belief that money does not equal "free speech"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i call upon Hawai'i's Congressional Representatives to introduce a bill that directs the U.S. Congress to amend the U.S. Constitution to overturn the *Citizens United* decision; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives; Hawai'i's four Congressional Representatives; the Governor of the State of Hawai'i; the Mayors of all counties; and the other 49 state legislatures.

Adopted May 2, 2015

O'ahu County Democrats, Resolution 2015-3

Title: **Calling For An Assessment By The City And County Of Honolulu On The Impact Of Development And Population Growth On Our 'Āina, Kai, And Infrastructure**

Whereas, The platform of the O'ahu County Democrats, recognizes that the conservation, preservation and restoration of Hawai'i's natural resources are connected to the health and welfare of our people; and

Whereas, The recent traffic gridlock in West O'ahu revealed the effects of uncontrolled growth population on O'ahu; and

Whereas, Condominium growth in the Kaka'ako area has continued to increase, taxing infrastructure and resulting in higher costs for condominiums that are no longer affordable; and

Whereas, Population growth has adversely impacted the natural environment, contributing to pollution and overcrowding at beaches and in neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Since agricultural lands on O'ahu are dwindling, transportation costs for importing foods are rising, and food costs to the consumer are increasing; and

Whereas, Honolulu is ranked third-worst city for traffic congestion in the nation; therefore, be it

Resolved, That O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the City and County of Honolulu City Council to conduct an assessment on the impact of development and population growth on our 'āina, kai, and infrastructure; and be it

Resolved, That O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge a complete review of the O'ahu General Plan to specifically quantify acceptable levels of urbanization/population growth of West O'ahu, North Shore, Ko'olauloa and Central O'ahu and that the review be based on projections of the infrastructure and public services needed to sustain quality of life for residents of those geo-sectors; and be it

Resolved, That O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge such a review to specifically include identification of any infrastructure shortfalls, such as hospitals, schools, and early childhood centers; and be it

Resolved, That O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge such a review to weigh the contributions of developments to the economy of Hawai'i against the costs of infrastructure to support its continuing existence; and be it

Resolved, That O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Honolulu City Council to use this review to examine its county laws to determine changes to balance growth with the environment; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be distributed to the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Governor of Hawai'i, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of the Hawai'i Legislature, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, and the Honolulu City Council.

Adopted May 2, 2015

O'ahu County Democrats, Resolution 2015-4

Title: **Protecting Public Employees While Advocating for Inclusive Non-Discrimination Policies**

Whereas, O'ahu County Democrats support inclusive non-discrimination policies to ensure that all people are treated equally and fairly; and

Whereas, O'ahu County Democrats support public servants and believe that they deserve the protections that come from inclusive non-discrimination policies and they should not lose the protections they have here in Honolulu when they travel on official business; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i vigorously oppose the introduction of any bills or laws, such as the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, that use supposed religious freedom as an opportunity to try and discriminate against any minority based on individuals, business or corporations religiously held beliefs; and be it

Resolved, That the O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i call upon the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu to issue an Administrative Directive that bans all public employees under their authority from any publicly-funded travel, that is not absolutely essential to public health and safety, to cities and/or states that do not have inclusive non-discrimination policies that are not at least equal if not greater to that of the City and County of Honolulu; and be it

Resolved, That the O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i support the introduction and passage of a bill at the City and County of Honolulu as well as at the State level that bans all public employees, elected officials and/or staffers from using public funds for travel, that is not absolutely essential to public health and safety, to cities and/or states that do not have inclusive non-discrimination policies that are not at least equal if not greater to that of the City and County of Honolulu; and be it

Resolved, That the O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i call upon the Governor of the State of Hawai'i to issue an Executive Order that bans all public employees under their authority from any publicly-funded travel, that is not absolutely essential to public health and safety, to cities and/or states that do not have inclusive non-discrimination policies that are not at least equal if not greater to that of the City and County of Honolulu; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, Hawai'i State Legislators for the island of O'ahu who are members of the Democratic Party, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, and Honolulu City Council who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

Adopted May 2, 2015