

Resolutions

1. What are they and where do they come from?

- Resolutions may be a number of things such as memorializing someone who has recently died or congratulating a person or group for some outstanding actions or service.
- The most frequent use of a resolution within the Democratic Party is to advocate for a position or action to be taken by our elected officials in the legislature or our party officers concerning the Rules of the TDP or the TDP Platform.
- Resolutions may be written by individuals or groups

2. How do you write one?

- There is an accepted format that is detailed in Roberts Rules of Order: Newly Revised that the TDP follows, but we generally do not use many of the variations suggested.
- Make sure the title clearly states what the resolution is about including the position being taken, if appropriate. Don't just say, "Resolution regarding job creation." Be specific (e.g. "Resolution Advocating Legislation to Increase Tax Incentives to Create 'Green Energy' Jobs")
- List each of the reasons for this resolution in a separate paragraph beginning with "WHEREAS," and what you're resolving in a separate paragraph(s) beginning with "RESOLVED."
- WHEREAS, [reason #1] ; and
WHEREAS, [reason #2] ; and
WHEREAS, [reason #3] ; now, therefore be it
RESOLVED, That [Precinct 314 of Travis County supports green energy] ;and, be it further
RESOLVED, That [this resolution be referred to the Travis County Democratic Legislators.]

3. What happens to my Resolution at the Precinct Convention?

- The Convention Chair reads each of the resolutions presented; they are discussed and then voted on and passed (or adopted) by majority vote. Those which are adopted are turned in with the rest of the Precinct Convention packet so they may be discussed by the Resolutions Committee for the County or Senatorial District Convention.

4. What does the County/Senatorial District Resolutions Committee do?

- Compiles all the resolutions adopted at the Precinct Conventions and decide which will be referred to the full convention for a vote.
- Typically, all the resolutions that are similar in nature are combined into one new resolution.
- The same or similar resolutions from many precincts will usually take precedence over a single resolution from one precinct convention.
- The resolutions that are passed in committee are then presented to the County or Senate District Convention for adoption or rejection.
- Those that are adopted go forward to the State Convention.

5. What happens at the State Convention?

- Each Senate District selects a member to be on the Resolutions Committee and they proceed as in the County/SD level.
- If there are too many different resolutions to handle at the State Convention, The SDEC (State Democratic Executive Committee) Resolutions Committee will work on these throughout the year and bring recommended resolutions to SDEC meetings for adoption, revision or rejection.

6. Is there any other way to get a Resolution voted on at the State Convention?

- Yes, there is a petition process. See The Rules of The Texas Democratic Party, 2008-2010, Art. IV. A. 7 on page 18. The Rules are available online on the TDP website (www.txdemocrats.org).