

RESOLUTION:

Arizona Democratic Party Reaffirms It's Stand to Promote Positive Human Relations and Support Immigrants and Human Rights

Adopted by the Arizona Democratic Party State Committee on January 26, 2008

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of Arizona residents are immigrants both documented and undocumented and;

WHEREAS, the Arizona Democratic Party and its political and social base in Arizona has a long and rich history of welcoming immigrants and refugees, facilitating their inclusion into our communities and encouraging their integration to ensure that ours is a rich and diverse community, and;

WHEREAS, at a time in history when our nation continues to struggle with a sense of vulnerability and insecurity, we are disappointed that many state and national leaders are failing to support our immigrant communities by remaining silent in the face of increasing anti-immigrant rhetoric and activity and;

WHEREAS, Arizona has experienced the growth of vigilante hate groups such as the Minutemen who have patrolled the Mexico/Arizona border and who do not help with border security, but in fact, make it more difficult for the border patrol to do its job, and create a more dangerous, hostile environment for all border communities and immigrants who come here seeking work and a better life for themselves and their families, and;

WHEREAS, recently Arizona State Legislators like Russell Pearce, and local political leaders and law enforcement officials, specifically Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, and Maricopa County Attorney Andrew Thomas have exploited the immigration issues as hot button wedge issues to whip up racist hysteria in order to promote their own narrow political interest and;

WHEREAS, authorizing local police to enforce complex issues of immigration, would increase the probability that racial profiling will escalate from its already unacceptable level, resulting in more violations of basic constitutional rights and increasing the chances of a multiplication of lawsuits;

WHEREAS, Arizona Democratic Party understands clearly that immigration is a national issue and that any final resolution must ultimately be settled at the Federal level with comprehensive immigration reform which addresses the root causes of migration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arizona Democratic Party affirms its commitment to promote positive human relations by supporting immigrants and human rights and

A.) calls upon local, state and national leaders to protect immigrants both documented and undocumented and others from vigilante violence, racial profiling and harassment and uphold the rights of all residents regardless of immigration status as a top priority.

B.) calls upon Arizona Legislators, County and City leaders to promote laws AND RETAIN for example Phoenix Police Operation Order 1.4.3, that CORRECTLY discourage state and local law enforcement agencies from being involved in what is a federal national issue.

C.) calls upon our Arizona Congressional delegation to support comprehensive immigration reform, which ensures a fair attainable path to citizenship and protects the rights of undocumented families, undocumented workers in the workplace, and reaffirms the dignity and integrity of immigrant peoples in Arizona.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Executive Director of the Arizona Democratic Party is hereby directed to within 7 days of the passage of this resolution convey this resolution in writing to the leadership of the U.S. House and Senate and to all Arizona U.S. Representatives and Senators and will provide the authors of this resolution verification that this was done.

The Executive Director of the Arizona Democratic Party is hereby directed to within 7 days of the passage of this resolution send a press release announcing the resolution to statewide news media and will provide authors of this resolution verification that this was done.

The Executive Director of the Arizona Democratic Party is hereby directed to within 7 days of the passage of this resolution place a copy of the resolution (for no less than 14 days) on the front page of the Arizona Democratic Party's public web site <http://www.azdem.org> and that after 14 days provide a direct front page link to this resolution.

The Executive Director of the Arizona Democratic Party is hereby directed to within 7 days of the passage of this resolution send an eblast to every person on the Arizona Democratic Party's email distribution list announcing the passage of the resolution along with the full text of the resolution.