

# Democratic Party of Wisconsin 2017 Resolutions

Adopted by Convention on June 3, 2017

This packet contains resolutions adopted by the assembled membership of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin on June 3, 2017 at its annual convention in Middleton, WI. The DPW Platform and these resolutions, along with the resolutions passed in 2014, 2015, and 2016 represent the current adopted positions of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin.

<b>RESOLUTIONS ON PARTY GOVERNANCE .....</b>	<b>2</b>
17-PG-01: Membership Growth (100 words).....	2
17-PG-02: Implementation of Ranked Choice Voting for Officers of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (89 words) .....	2
<b>RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
17-AGE-01: Clean Water and Air Acts (97 words).....	2
17-AGE-02: Clean Energy Transition (88 words).....	2
17-AGE-03: Oil Pipeline Construction Moratorium (94 words).....	3
17-AGE-04: Moratorium on Selling of Public Lands and Spaces (91 words) .....	3
17-AGE-05: Water Quality (79 words) .....	3
17-AGE-06: Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOS) (100 words).....	3
<b>RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN AFFAIRS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
17-FA-01: Support Negotiations for a Global Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons (100 words).....	4
<b>RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING JUSTICE, HUMANS CONCERNS, AND DEMOCRACY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
17-JHD-01: Constituent Services (91 words).....	4
17-JHD-02: Counteracting the Harm of Citizens United (92 words).....	4
17-JHD-03: Legalize Cannabis (64 words) .....	4
17-JHD-04: Protecting and Defending Planned Parenthood (96 words).....	5
17-JHD-05: Support Ruling by Federal Court to Redraw New Legislative Maps by November 2017 (85 words) .....	5
17-JHD-06: Saving Medicaid And Keeping The ACA (90 words).....	5
17-JHD-07: Election of the President and Vice President by the Popular Vote (94 words) .....	5
17-JHD-08: Resolution for National Right to Vote Amendment (62 words).....	5
17-JHD-09: Universal Healthcare (97 words).....	6
17-JHD-10: Enact Common Sense Gun Regulation (70 words) .....	6
17-JHD-11: Safe Roads in Wisconsin (85 words).....	6
17-JHD-12: Universal healthcare (74 words).....	6
17-JHD-13: Public Safety Ahead of Corporate Profits (93 words).....	6
17-JHD-14: Hold 2020 Democratic National Convention in a State without a Death Penalty (78 words) .....	7
<b>RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION, LABOR, AND ECONOMICS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
17-ELE-01: High Speed Internet Access (91 words) .....	7
17-ELE-02: Support of Mass Transit (86 words) .....	7
17-ELE-03: Increase Alternative Public Transportation In Rural Communities (100 words) .....	7
17-ELE-04: Accountability for Schools Receiving Public Voucher Money (100 words) .....	8
17-ELE-05: Regulate Voucher Schools as We Pursue Elimination of Voucher Program (99 words).....	8
17-ELE-06: Voucher School Requirements (85 words).....	8
17-ELE-07: Public School Funding (52 words) .....	8
17-ELE-08: Ban Firearms From School Property (89 words).....	9
17-ELE-09: Close Commercial Property Assessment Loopholes (94 words).....	9
17-ELE-10: Keeping Social Security Viable and Solvent (47 words) .....	9
17-ELE-11: Support Funding of Public Schools (68 words).....	9

1 **RESOLUTIONS ON PARTY GOVERNANCE**

2  
3 **17-PG-01: MEMBERSHIP GROWTH (100 WORDS)**

4 WHEREAS, protecting our rights under the current right-wing administration in Washington, D.C. will require  
5 educating, organizing, and mobilizing the citizenry into resistance;

6 WHEREAS, Wisconsin is continuing to face our own ALEC onslaught of anti-worker, anti-environment and regressive  
7 policies from Madison;

8 WHEREAS, electing compassionate and progressive candidates at the national, state, and local levels will require  
9 increased involvement of Democrats; and,

10 WHEREAS, in the past 10 months the Democratic Party of Walworth County increased its membership by 50%; we  
11 are renewing our commitment to grow in order to affect change;

12 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that ALL county parties renew their commitment to growth.  
13

14 **17-PG-02: IMPLEMENTATION OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING FOR OFFICERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WISCONSIN**  
15 **(89 WORDS)**

16 WHEREAS, election by plurality can and often does result in the election of a candidate who is not supported by the  
17 majority of the electorate;

18 WHEREAS, election by plurality discourages citizens from expressing their true intent out of fear of wasting their  
19 votes on candidates perceived to have no chance of winning; and,

20 WHEREAS, a system which encourages "lesser of two evils" voting causes apathy and undermines democracy;

21 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Wisconsin and all its subdivisions will utilize ranked choice  
22 voting to elect its officers.  
23  
24

25 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

26  
27 **17-AGE-01: CLEAN WATER AND AIR ACTS (97 WORDS)**

28 WHEREAS, everyone deserves fresh clean drinking water and clean air to breathe;

29 WHEREAS, the 1963 Clean Air Act, the 1972 Clean Water Act, and the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act were passed;

30 WHEREAS, fracking has contaminated our ground water and the air we breathe, and the 353 chemicals used in  
31 fracking harm our health and safety; and,

32 WHEREAS, the President signed an order in February 2017 revoking the Clean Water Rule and restricting the EPA;

33 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports these Acts, the Clean Water Rule, and maintaining the EPA's ability to  
34 protect our air and water.  
35

36 **17-AGE-02: CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION (88 WORDS)**

37 WHEREAS, global warming is a significant threat to the future of all life on the planet;

38 WHEREAS, nearly 100% of scientists agree human caused global warming is real; and,

39 WHEREAS, we have the knowledge and resources to reduce this significant threat;

40 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW urges our local, state, and national government to support climate change  
41 mitigation strategies, including capping carbon emissions, promoting sustainable growth, energy conservation, wind,  
42 solar and other renewable energy development, and requiring utilities to accept solar and other clean energy sources  
43 without prejudice.  
44

1 **17-AGE-03: OIL PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION MORATORIUM (94 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, water is necessary for the health and well-being of every creature;  
3 WHEREAS, water systems have repeatedly been contaminated by leaks and eruptions of pipe systems in our state  
4 and lands; and,  
5 WHEREAS, the current state and national administrations have dismissed studies, tragic events, and public concerns  
6 regarding the safety of these pipelines and the necessity of building them;  
7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW stands in unity with the Standing Rock protestors; that there be a moratorium of  
8 all construction of proposed pipelines until further environmental impact statements are submitted and the public  
9 supports them.

10

11 **17-AGE-04: MORATORIUM ON SELLING OF PUBLIC LANDS AND SPACES (91 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, our public lands and spaces are under attack by parties who desire they be privatized and exploited for  
13 extractive purposes;  
14 WHEREAS, these public lands and spaces belong to the people of our country and not to private interests; and,  
15 WHEREAS, these public lands and spaces are an important element of our heritage which should be left to future  
16 generations;  
17 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW condemns these efforts to sell off our lands and spaces, and calls for an  
18 immediate moratorium on any negotiations concerning the sale of such lands or spaces.

19

20 **17-AGE-05: WATER QUALITY (79 WORDS)**

21 WHEREAS, all people depend on and deserve safe water for drinking, cooking, and washing;  
22 WHEREAS, some cities and counties have contaminated water supplies; and,  
23 WHEREAS, contaminants include heavy metals, petrochemicals, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals,  
24 and/or dangerous bacteria and viruses;  
25 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, when contamination is found, the DPW supports state-funded annual tests of affected  
26 public and private wells to identify any of the aforementioned contaminants, to monitor the corrective actions taken  
27 by polluters, and to remediate and resolve these problems.

28

29 **17-AGE-06: CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS (CAFOS) (100 WORDS)**

30 WHEREAS, some farming has evolved into industrialized CAFOs with thousands of animals housed at each site;  
31 WHEREAS, it is estimated each day CAFOs in Wisconsin produce over 47,000,000 gallons of waste containing  
32 disease-causing organisms which is spread above geological structures and biological systems incapable of filtering  
33 it, polluting the people's lakes, streams, and drinking water; and,  
34 WHEREAS, current laws and enforcement practices fail to consider sustainable agriculture, public health, and the  
35 natural environment and preempt local control;  
36 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports a comprehensive revision of all laws governing the establishment and  
37 expansion of CAFOs and supports restoration of local democracy.

38

1 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

2  
3 **17-FA-01: SUPPORT NEGOTIATIONS FOR A GLOBAL TREATY PROHIBITING NUCLEAR WEAPONS (100 WORDS)**

4 WHEREAS, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was meant to prevent non-nuclear nations  
5 from acquiring weapons and put nuclear nations on a path to eliminating them;

6 WHEREAS, the NPT has failed to produce good faith negotiations to eliminate nuclear weapons; and,

7 WHEREAS, given this failure, the United Nations General Assembly voted December 23, 2016 to launch negotiations  
8 in 2017 on a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons (113 in favor, 35 opposed, 13 abstaining);

9 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports negotiations for a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons; and,

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution will be distributed to our congressional delegation and media.  
11  
12

13 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING JUSTICE, HUMANS CONCERNS, AND DEMOCRACY**

14  
15 **17-JHD-01: CONSTITUENT SERVICES (91 WORDS)**

16 WHEREAS, representatives of the US Congress are elected to participate in official meetings of the legislative body,  
17 on behalf of the People of their representative Districts; and,

18 WHEREAS, representatives of Congress are also expected by the People to provide Constituent Services: direct  
19 communication with the People – answering letters, phone calls and holding town halls;

20 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW implore that all members of Congress provide Constituent Services to the  
21 People of their representative Districts, including an in-person, public town hall at a minimum of once per year but  
22 preferably quarterly.  
23

24 **17-JHD-02: COUNTERACTING THE HARM OF CITIZENS UNITED (92 WORDS)**

25 WHEREAS, the Citizens United decision has weakened the faith of Americans in the electoral process;

26 WHEREAS, corporate donations to secretive Super PACs have led to corruption or at least the appearance of  
27 corruption;

28 WHEREAS, various non-profit organizations have formed to disguise spending on political campaigns; and,

29 WHEREAS, the entire base of American political life hinges on faith in the vote;

30 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports campaign finance reform that will reduce corporate influence, increase  
31 required disclosure of corporate donations to Super PACs and similar organizations, and move to public funding of  
32 campaigns.  
33

34 **17-JHD-03: LEGALIZE CANNABIS (64 WORDS)**

35 WHEREAS, numerous states have legalized cannabis for industrial, medical, or recreational use;

36 WHEREAS, the legalization of cannabis contributes to the economy, health, welfare, and civil rights of the citizens of  
37 these states; and,

38 WHEREAS, cannabis is less harmful than alcohol or tobacco products;

39 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports legislation legalizing the production, sale, and use of cannabis for  
40 industrial, medical, and recreational use.  
41

1 **17-JHD-04: PROTECTING AND DEFENDING PLANNED PARENTHOOD (96 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood has provided critical healthcare for 100 years to millions of women, men, and  
3 families, including cancer screenings, birth control, and abortion care in Wisconsin and nationwide;  
4 WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood provides comprehensive medically accurate and age-appropriate sex education to  
5 teens and adults; and,  
6 WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood is the largest, most trusted reproductive healthcare provider in Wisconsin and has  
7 helped reduce unplanned pregnancies and abortions;  
8 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW opposes ALL efforts to defund Planned Parenthood, limit its ability to serve clients, or  
9 appoint judges with a record of opposing equal healthcare rights for all women.

10

11 **17-JHD-05: SUPPORT RULING BY FEDERAL COURT TO REDRAW NEW LEGISLATIVE MAPS BY NOVEMBER 2017 (85**  
12 **WORDS)**

13 WHEREAS, Wisconsin citizens deserve to participate in free and fair elections;  
14 WHEREAS, two Federal Courts have ruled the current Wisconsin map "constitutes an unconstitutional political  
15 gerrymander" in violation of both the First Amendment and the Equal Protection Clause in the 14th Amendment;  
16 and,  
17 WHEREAS, an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States would waste taxpayer money;  
18 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports the ruling set forth by the Federal Courts in January 2017 and  
19 November 2016 and insists on drawing fair new maps.

20

21 **17-JHD-06: SAVING MEDICAID AND KEEPING THE ACA (90 WORDS)**

22 WHEREAS, covering over 70 million individuals, Medicaid is the country's largest program providing health coverage  
23 to low income individuals;  
24 WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act allowed states to expand their Medicaid programs, providing billions to counties  
25 for indigent health care services, behavioral, preventative and coordinated care, and public health; and,  
26 WHEREAS, repealing the ACA without a similar replacement removes millions of people from Medicaid;  
27 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Wisconsin supports maintaining Medicaid and further supports  
28 provisions in current law that allow for expanded program eligibility and coverage standards.

29

30 **17-JHD-07: ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT BY THE POPULAR VOTE (94 WORDS)**

31 WHEREAS, the concept of one person, one vote is fundamental to democracy; and,  
32 WHEREAS, use of the Electoral College to elect the President and Vice President does not reflect the popular votes  
33 cast for candidates for these offices, but rather creates a circumstance under which the votes of residents of  
34 populous states are worth less, sometimes substantially so, than the votes of residences of less populous states;  
35 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Wisconsin supports a constitutional amendment to abolish the  
36 Electoral College and elect the President and Vice President by popular vote.

37

38 **17-JHD-08: RESOLUTION FOR NATIONAL RIGHT TO VOTE AMENDMENT (62 WORDS)**

39 WHEREAS, there exists no constitutional guarantee of citizens' right to vote; and,  
40 WHEREAS, Title 52 of the U.S. Code §20501 affirms that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote is a  
41 fundamental right";  
42 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports an amendment to the U.S. Constitution protecting the right to vote, and  
43 urges Congress to propose a National Right to Vote Amendment.

44

1 **17-JHD-09: UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE (97 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, people residing in the US deserve quality and affordable healthcare regardless of occupation, zip code,  
3 religion, income, age, gender, citizenship or sexuality;

4 WHEREAS, quality healthcare should be a public right, not a highly commoditized service, causing financial instability  
5 in many people;

6 WHEREAS, the United States of America is the only industrialized country in the world without universal healthcare;  
7 and,

8 WHEREAS, we as a people value life and dignity for all;

9 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW demands that the United States of America establish a system of universal health  
10 care with the 2017 national budget and accompanying legislation.

11

12 **17-JHD-10: ENACT COMMON SENSE GUN REGULATION (70 WORDS)**

13 WHEREAS, Americans have witnessed mass shootings around the nation; and,

14 WHEREAS, some pro-gun organizations oppose reasonable legislation to protect citizens from being killed by civilian  
15 owned high-powered weapons;

16 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW support legislation restoring the ban on assault rifles and high-capacity magazines  
17 that expired in 2004; requiring background checks for all gun purchases and ownership transfers; and requiring that  
18 all stolen and lost guns be reported to the police.

19

20 **17-JHD-11: SAFE ROADS IN WISCONSIN (85 WORDS)**

21 WHEREAS, Wisconsin should have safe roads in all 72 counties; and,

22 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all persons traveling on Wisconsin roads to have them safely constructed and  
23 well maintained;

24 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports the placement of the issue of safe roads on the ballot in each  
25 county, as an advisory referendum, during the spring election in 2018 to make certain there is sufficient state  
26 funding for the DOT to construct and maintain state, county, town, city, and village infrastructures.

27

28 **17-JHD-12: UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE (74 WORDS)**

29 WHEREAS, healthcare is a right of all Americans;

30 WHEREAS, we do not have a UNIVERSAL, national, single-payer health-care insurance program in the US; and,

31 WHEREAS, Medicare/Medicaid has proven to be an efficient, effective and equitable system of health insurance for  
32 the millions of people who currently have it;

33 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW will only recruit or support state and national candidates committed to advocate  
34 that Medicare/Medicaid coverage be extended to everyone in the US.

35

36 **17-JHD-13: PUBLIC SAFETY AHEAD OF CORPORATE PROFITS (93 WORDS)**

37 WHEREAS, irreplaceable national park lands risk being auctioned off for corporation profit;

38 WHEREAS, mining, oil & gas drilling, fracking, and road construction threaten public lands and health;

39 WHEREAS, oxygen and carbon dioxide (CO2) exchange between plants and humans is essential to all life;

40 WHEREAS, clear-cutting forests decreases oxygen; burning fossil fuels increases carbon; and,

41 WHEREAS, land and oceans absorb 40% of this additional CO2; the rest cumulates, absorbs sun's radiation, and  
42 prevents heat from escaping into space, (greenhouse effect, global warming);

43 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW promote renewables through legal and massive public involvement.

44

1 **17-JHD-14: HOLD 2020 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION IN A STATE WITHOUT A DEATH PENALTY (78 WORDS)**  
2 WHEREAS, the Democratic Party has consistently opposed the death penalty; and,  
3 WHEREAS, many states still use the death penalty;  
4 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin requests that the Democratic Party National Committee  
5 (DNC) not award the 2020 National Convention to any state that uses the death penalty; and,  
6 FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPW members of the DNC be instructed to move that the DNC not schedule the 2020  
7 National Convention in a state that uses the death penalty.  
8  
9

10 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION, LABOR, AND ECONOMICS**  
11

12 **17-ELE-01: HIGH SPEED INTERNET ACCESS (91 WORDS)**

13 WHEREAS, there are many rural areas that do not have access to high-speed internet or if they do it is unaffordable  
14 and provides inadequate service;  
15 WHEREAS, there are some communities where students have to travel to do their homework in parking lots just to  
16 get access to Wi-Fi; and,  
17 WHEREAS, access to high-speed internet is a critical economic issue for small businesses and industry as well as an  
18 educational need;  
19 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports expansion of broadband so that everyone has access to high-speed  
20 and an affordable internet connection.  
21

22 **17-ELE-02: SUPPORT OF MASS TRANSIT (86 WORDS)**

23 WHEREAS, individual vehicle use for routine transportation increases the consumption of fossil fuels and increases  
24 traffic flow that contributes to accidents and delays;  
25 WHEREAS, heavy road use from routine transportation accelerates road wear and escalates repair costs; and,  
26 WHEREAS, development of mass transit options will create local jobs that pay well;  
27 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports initiatives to increase local mass transit and passenger rail options  
28 across Wisconsin, focusing especially on hybrid fuel and non-fossil-fuel options, and supports the creation of  
29 sustainable financing for such projects.  
30

31 **17-ELE-03: INCREASE ALTERNATIVE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN RURAL COMMUNITIES (100 WORDS)**

32 WHEREAS, all people require access to transportation;  
33 WHEREAS, small rural communities lack public transportation options;  
34 WHEREAS, rural residents require transportation to and from surrounding communities to access essential services,  
35 healthcare, education and employment;  
36 WHEREAS, driving may not be possible for the elderly, disabled, or lower income residents;  
37 WHEREAS, transportation alternatives provide on-demand service and other options beyond fixed-route public mass  
38 transit that improves quality of life, increases opportunity, and triggers economic growth; and,  
39 WHEREAS, federal and state funding is available for rural transportation alternatives;  
40 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports expansion by counties and municipalities of alternative transportation in our  
41 rural communities.  
42

1 **17-ELE-04: ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SCHOOLS RECEIVING PUBLIC VOUCHER MONEY (100 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, schools receiving public voucher money can be run for profit and return students to public schools at any  
3 time; and,  
4 WHEREAS, all schools should be accountable for the taxpayers' money they receive;  
5 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports making all K-12 schools receiving public vouchers subject to the same  
6 requirements as public schools, including holding regular public meetings open to all community members;  
7 FURTHER RESOLVED, DPW supports requiring such schools to reimburse the voucher money received for a student  
8 if they fail to educate that student for the entire year or in accordance with the legal requirements set for public  
9 schools.

10

11 **17-ELE-05: REGULATE VOUCHER SCHOOLS AS WE PURSUE ELIMINATION OF VOUCHER PROGRAM (99 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, unanimous opposition by U.S. Senate Democrats to Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education demonstrates  
13 Party unity against school privatization;  
14 WHEREAS, standards of quality, fairness, and accountability in Wisconsin voucher schools are frequently below those  
15 of public schools;  
16 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, voucher schools be required to adhere to state standards: open meetings, open records,  
17 anti-discrimination laws, and federal constitutional protections;  
18 FURTHER RESOLVED, voucher school teachers be allowed to teach only in subjects for which they hold state  
19 certification;  
20 FURTHER RESOLVED, voucher schools be required to annually report suspensions and expulsions, categorized by  
21 reason, and return public moneys for those students.

22

23 **17-ELE-06: VOUCHER SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS (85 WORDS)**

24 WHEREAS, we believe in quality public education for all;  
25 WHEREAS, private schools are not subject to the same requirements as public schools;  
26 WHEREAS, separation of church and state has been upheld by the Supreme Court for 200 years;  
27 WHEREAS, taxpayer vouchers fund religious instruction; and,  
28 WHEREAS, taxpayer vouchers fund "for-profit" schools;  
29 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW demands that voucher schools meet the same standards for admission,  
30 curriculum, and outcome as public schools; and that 'for-profit' schools and schools offering religious instruction be  
31 exempt from receiving vouchers.

32

33 **17-ELE-07: PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING (52 WORDS)**

34 WHEREAS, an informed populace is critical to a well-functioning democracy; and,  
35 WHEREAS, adequate public funding is vital for quality public schools;  
36 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW believes all public funds dedicated to education should be used for developing,  
37 maintaining, and improving public education; and,  
38 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin voucher program be abolished.

39



1 **17-ELE-08: BAN FIREARMS FROM SCHOOL PROPERTY (89 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, firearms and their use are antithetical to the aims and methods of education;  
3 WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. 948.605 prohibits a person from possessing a firearm in a "school zone"; and,  
4 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and other groups that support education, and many individual  
5 public school boards, have passed resolutions opposing legislative action that would allow carrying firearms onto  
6 school property;  
7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes legislation allowing any person other than a sworn police officer  
8 authorized by the school board to carry firearms onto school property.

9  
10 **17-ELE-09: CLOSE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT LOOPHOLES (94 WORDS)**

11 WHEREAS, homeowners in Wisconsin pay 70% of the total statewide property tax; and,  
12 WHEREAS, legislation is needed to curb strategies increasingly used by chain stores to reduce their property tax bills;  
13 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Wisconsin urges the Legislature to pass legislation clarifying  
14 that (1) leases are appropriately factored into the valuation of leased properties and (2) when using the comparable  
15 sale method of valuation, assessors shall consider as comparable only sales within the same market segment  
16 exhibiting a similar highest and best use rather than similarly sized but vacant properties.

17  
18 **17-ELE-10: KEEPING SOCIAL SECURITY VIABLE AND SOLVENT (47 WORDS)**

19 WHEREAS, the long-term solvency of Social Security may be in jeopardy;  
20 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports eliminating the exemption currently given to employees earning above  
21 \$127,200 and mandating employers and employees continue to contribute to the social security fund at currently  
22 established rates on all wages paid.

23  
24 **17-ELE-11: SUPPORT FUNDING OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS (68 WORDS)**

25 WHEREAS, public education is a cornerstone of democracy and essential to Wisconsin's economic prosperity;  
26 WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Constitution guarantees public education for all K-12 students;  
27 WHEREAS, private schools are not held accountable to state standards;  
28 WHEREAS, the state cannot afford to support two education systems; and,  
29 WHEREAS, taxpayer subsidized private schools take resources from public schools;  
30 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that taxpayer money be used only to support public educational institutions.