

All Young Democrats of Georgia 2021 State Convention Resolutions

YDG Resolution condemning SB 202

WHEREAS, the Republican incumbent Donald John Trump was soundly defeated in his bid for re-election as President of the United States by both popular and electoral vote on November 3, 2020, and the voters of the state of Georgia voted in the plurality to delegate our 16 Electoral College votes to the Democratic candidate Joseph Robinette Biden, Jr., and voted again on January 5, 2021 to replace the Republican incumbent senators David Perdue and Kelly Loeffler with our Democratic challengers Jon Ossoff and Rev. Raphael Warnock, who have proudly served since as members of our Democratic majority in the United States Senate;

AND WHEREAS, the Republican Party and its foremost leader, Donald John Trump, engaged throughout his presidency in a nationwide campaign of disinformation, harassment, intimidation and even violence against political opponents and critics, and demonized the ability of voters across the United States to vote absentee by mail, register to vote online, register automatically, register on the day of election, redraw districts in a nonpartisan fashion, file and gather signed petitions to place questions on the ballot, and otherwise exercise our dearest democratic rights, going so far as to incite a mob of fascists to violently attack the Capitol Building and the Capitol Police in Washington D.C. on January 6, 2021, angering all Democrats and even several Republican elected officials to the extent of filing an unprecedented second impeachment of a President of the United States, as well as the first-ever impeachment trial of a former President and the largest majority and largest share of a defendant's own party to ever vote for impeachment;

AND WHEREAS, the Georgia Republican Party and its elected officials in both executive and legislative office have desperately pursued the seemingly-everlasting Republican hoax of so-called "voter fraud", to the extent that the Republican legislative majorities passed, and Governor Kemp deplorably signed, Senate Bill 202, the details of which have caused justifiable outrage and horror in Georgia and throughout the nation as an attack on Black voters, voters of color and urban voters who have trended even further away from the Republican Party because the Republican Party does not offer any reasonable policy to Georgia voters except for preserving their own power at the public expense, as well as an attack on Democratic nominees who have a strong chance to win the 2022 election in this state;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia condemns the passage and signature of SB 202, the so-called "Election Integrity Act of 2021", and will actively oppose this and similar legislation in this state and elsewhere which undermine the ability of voters to vote absentee by reducing the number of drop boxes in more urbanized counties, undermine

the ability of counties to provide more accessible means of voting by banning non-emergency usage of mobile voting precincts and banning county governments from sending out absentee ballot application forms, undermine the ability of voters to cast a vote by reducing the time to hold a runoff or vote early in a runoff, undermine the ability of nonpartisan organizations to provide food and water to in-person voting lines, place the partisan state legislature in greater control of State Elections Boards and county boards of election, and allow for greater attempts at intimidation of voters and elections staffers by the creation of a so-called "hotline" for anonymous "tips" against alleged "illegal election activities";

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia condemn the disinformation campaign waged by Republican partisans and elected officials in defense of SB 202 as damaging to public health, as well as the intimidation campaign against those who have taken direct, legal or economic action against this bill, and call for its immediate repeal;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia strongly applaud the work of individuals such as State Representative Park Cannon (D-58) and organizations such as Fair Fight, New Georgia Project, Georgia NAACP, ACLU of Georgia, SPLC, Black Voters Matter Fund, GALEO, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, and like-minded organizations who have protested and litigated against this bill;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia deeply regret the offense that SB 202 has caused to employers and workers in this state, including to Major League Baseball to the extent that the 2021 MLB All-Star Game has been re-located to Denver, Colorado, a state which has implemented election laws which are superior to SB 202 and most other election laws passed by the Georgia General Assembly since 2005 in almost every way, including the establishment of universal and permanent vote-by-mail for all Colorado voters, wider types of acceptable identification for those who wish to register to vote, same-day registration, pre-registration for 16 year olds, and an innovative program that allows voters to fix problems with their ballots via text message, none of which are currently available under Georgia law but are aspirations for Georgia Democrats to pursue;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia encourage all elected officials from all political affiliations and all levels of office to provide all possible relief to voters from the likely harms to ensue from this horrible bill, including the passage of the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act in the United States Congress, as well as local action to educate voters, the reduction or vacating of charges against voters exercising their right to vote, and greater funding and infrastructural changes to support poll workers in the conduct of free, fair and open elections and primaries.

Submitted by Harry Underwood
Muscogee County YDs
04/09/2021

Resolution for Georgia Free and Equal Elections Amendment

WHEREAS, 30 state constitutions, including North Carolina, California, and South Carolina mandate that all elections should be free, with 18 of these states also stating that elections should be “equal” or “open” and 15 of these states mandating that no "civil or military power shall at any time interfere to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage”;

AND WHEREAS, despite being the birthplace and resting place of civil rights advocates past and present, from Martin Luther King Jr. to John Lewis, and despite having the youngest state constitution as of 1983, Georgia's state constitution does not yet provide for such a basic expectation that our right to free suffrage shall be free and shall not be intimidated or suppressed by civil or military force;

AND WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of Georgia stand in support of the right to vote, the right to the secret ballot, and the right to freedom from suppression and intimidation in the exercise of one’s conscience, and recognize the need to plug this loophole in our state's constitution;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia call on Georgia's state legislators to draft and pass the following amendment to Article II, Section I of the Georgia State Constitution: "All elections shall be free, equal and open, and no power, civil or military, shall at any time interfere to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage."

Submitted by Harry Underwood
Muscogee County YDs
04/09/2021

Resolution on the Gainesville Nitrogen Leak

WHEREAS, on January 28th, 2021, a liquid nitrogen leak occurred at the Foundation Food Group plant in Gainesville, Georgia, leading to the untimely deaths of 6 workers and injury to 20 other workers;

AND WHEREAS, the victims of this disaster are predominantly of Latino descent, many of whom are undocumented, and have been further victimized by abuse, neglect and malfeasance by Foundation Food Group;

AND WHEREAS, the corporate abuse against new and aspiring Americans is an ongoing crisis in this and all other states;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia condemn the negligence which led to the disaster;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia mourn the loss of life and injury to the workers affected by the disaster and express our condolences to the families of Nelly Gisel Perez-Rafael, Jose DeJesus Elias-Cabrera, Corey Alan Murphy, Saulo Suarez-Bernal, Victor Vellez, and Edgar Vera-Garcia, and offer our solidarity to the survivors, their families and the Latino community in Hall County;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia condemn the actions of Foundation Food Group who have intimidated workers in order to avoid material responsibility for the incident or related damages;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia encourage the continuation of the OSHA investigation into this disaster, and encourage all public officials with responsibility over Hall County to act in defense of the victims and their families;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia support the work of Georgia Unidas Familias and Georgia Immigrant Rights Alliance in providing mutual aid to the community affected by this disaster and fighting for redress against the chicken poultry industry.

Submitted by Harry Underwood
Muscogee County YDs
04/09/2021

Resolution for TGNCNB youth and athletes

WHEREAS, Young Democrats of Georgia recognizes the contributions of the wider transgender/gender non-conforming/non-binary (“TGNCNB”) community to the broader social justice movement and stands firmly behind all TGNCNB individuals;

AND WHEREAS, numerous bills have been filed, and some passed, which would take such actions such as forcing TGNCNB athletes to play sports with and against players whose gender expression does not match, as well as prohibit TGNCNB youth from receiving health care affirming of their gender expression on pain of legal penalties against providers;

AND WHEREAS, the Biden administration and the Supreme Court of the United States have rightly affirmed that discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression is a violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964’s prohibition against discrimination on the basis of sex;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia condemn all attempts to prohibit transgender youth and athletes from receiving gender-affirming healthcare, participating in sports in accordance with their gender expression, or living in freedom and safety without gender-based harassment, violence or discrimination;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia support local, state and federal legislation which would protect transgender youth and athletes in their ability to receive gender-affirming healthcare, participate in sports in accordance with their gender expression, and live in freedom and safety without gender-based harassment, violence or discrimination;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia call on the United States Congress to pass the Equality Act of 2021 bill.

Submitted by Harry Underwood
Muscogee County YDs
04/09/2021

Resolution for Hate Crimes Bill and Citizens' Arrest Repeal Bill

WHEREAS Georgia's first attempt at a hate crimes law was signed into law in 2000 by Governor Roy Barnes but was struck down by the State Supreme Court in 2004 as too unconstitutionally vague to have legal standing;

AND WHEREAS it took 16 years for the Republican majority to pass a hate crimes bill of any kind, as well as 158 years for any session of the General Assembly to pass a repeal of so-called citizens' arrest;

AND WHEREAS the violence which took the life of Ahmaud Arbery near Brunswick, Georgia on February 23, 2020 served as the final motivation for the passage of a new hate crimes law in 2020 as well as the veto-proof passage of a repeal of citizens' arrest on March 31, 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia commend the organizations who pushed for the hate crime bill's passage, including the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, Metro Atlanta Chamber, Georgia Equality, Anti-Defamation League, Atlanta Black Chambers of Commerce, Georgia Greater Black Chamber of Commerce, the Georgia NAACP and the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Southern Center for Human Rights in their work for the repeal of the citizens' arrest law;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia commend the work of these organizations in securing a clean hate crimes bill when Republicans attempted to insert a shameful, poisonous addition to the bill;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia call on the Georgia civil rights advocacy and business communities to cement these successes in civil rights law by pushing for the passage of a comprehensive Georgia Civil Rights Act which protects against discrimination in housing, public accommodations and employment on the basis of race, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, hair style or texture, ancestry, disability, military status, familial status or pregnancy status.

Submitted by Harry Underwood
Muscogee County YDs
04/09/2021

Public Financing of Elections

WHEREAS, The ruling of Citizens United has allowed unlimited donations from corporate PACs;

AND WHEREAS, These large donations influence representatives to vote against the best interest of their constituents;

WHEREAS, For a democracy to function properly, representatives must be free from undue influence from anyone other than their constituents.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Young Democrats of Georgia calls on Congress to overturn the Citizens United V. FEC Supreme Court Decision allowing campaign spending by private organizations.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that YDG calls for a public campaign finance system (similar to that used in Seattle) to be implemented across the United States and used at the local, state and federal level.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that YDG calls on Congress to overturn Buckley v. Valeo which struck down a provision of the Federal Election Commission mandating public financing for presidential elections.

Victor Jones

Smyrna, GA

Cobb County YDs

Additional Sponsors: Kemar Newman, Cobb County YD president

For platform? Yes

In Support of a YDG Seat on the State Committee

WHEREAS, youth represent the future of the Democratic party and its leadership, as well as its voting base;

AND WHEREAS, Youth voter turnout delivers wins to Democrats;

AND WHEREAS Youth activism, engagement, and turnout delivered Georgia to President Biden and Senators Ossoff and Warnock;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Young Democrats of Georgia supports efforts to amend the Bylaws of the Georgia Democratic Party to grant the Young Democrats a seat on the State Committee.

Luke Netto
Milton, Georgia
4/9/2021

Yes

["https://www.forbes.com/sites/alexandrasternlicht/2020/11/04/nearly-100-youth-voter-turnout-in-georgia-forming-significant-biden-contingent-in-deeply-divided-state/?sh=179dbf8a7438](https://www.forbes.com/sites/alexandrasternlicht/2020/11/04/nearly-100-youth-voter-turnout-in-georgia-forming-significant-biden-contingent-in-deeply-divided-state/?sh=179dbf8a7438)

<https://circle.tufts.edu/latest-research/election-week-2020> "

Park Cannon Resolution

WHEREAS, Park Cannon was born in Albany, Georgia in 1991, is a graduate of the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, and has honed her skill as linguist and staffer at the Feminist Health Center of Atlanta, where she promoted wellness for women and lobbied the Georgia General Assembly for policies and programs to improve health care;

AND WHEREAS, Rep. Cannon, since succeeding Simone Bell to House District 58 in 2016, has fought tirelessly for civil rights during her time in the Georgia House of Representatives, was violently arrested by Capitol Police when knocking on the door of Governor Kemp as he signed the shameful bill SB 202 on March 25, 2021, was threatened by Capitol Police with felony charges for her act of protest, and was subsequently cleared of the charges by Fulton District Attorney Fani Willis;

AND WHEREAS, Rep. Cannon is a progressive queer Black woman who is unbought and unbossed in her politics;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia celebrate and commend the work of State Representative Park Cannon of House District 58 in DeKalb and Fulton counties as exemplary of a young Democrat who uses her position, power and profile to stand against racism, white supremacy, the carceral state and voter suppression;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia commend District Attorney Willis for clearing the wrongful charges, and call for Rep. Cannon's arrest record to be cleared of this wrongful incident;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of Georgia call on all Democrats to offer our solidarity to Rep. Cannon and wish her greater future success in moving Georgia forward, both inside and outside the Gold Dome.

Submitted by Harry Underwood
Muscogee County YDs
04/09/2021

Supporting the Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act

YDG Resolution Supporting H.R. 2307

WHEREAS Youth shall inherit the majority of the harm of climate change through natural disasters and climate immigration;

AND WHEREAS, Climate change is an existential threat to the health, resilience, and prosperity of our country and people around the globe;

AND WHEREAS, Air and water pollution from extracting and burning fossil fuels poses a significant threat to public health and our natural resources,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Young Democrats of Georgia call on the federal, state, and local governments to provide a greater financial incentive for investing in cleaner, renewable energy research, development and infrastructure;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Young Democrats of Georgia call on members of all parties and political ideologies in 117th Congress to support H.R.2307, the Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividends Act, a bill to establish a fee on carbon-based fuels, return revenue back to the public in the form of monthly dividends to promote equity and protect low-income households from increases in utility costs, and establish border adjustments to ensure goods manufactured in America remain competitive on the global market.

Submitted by Mark Putman

Atlanta, Georgia

Georgia Tech College Democrats

Individual

4/10/2021

For Platform? **Maybe**

Link: <https://energyinnovationact.org/>