

# **Final Resolutions Committee Report**

## **Los Angeles County Democratic Party**

06/11/2019

### **OPPOSING AFFILIATION BETWEEN STATE-FUNDED AND RELIGIOUS HOSPITALS**

**WHEREAS** the California Democratic Party platform identifies support for full reproductive health services, including the full range of reproductive services, contraception and abortion, and access to affordable, high quality, culturally sensitive health care services; and

**WHEREAS** California's Unruh Civil Rights Act promises that all those within the jurisdiction of the state are "free and equal" and "entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever."; and denying transgender people gender-affirming care constitutes sex discrimination in violation of constitutional equal protection, and clear case law demonstrates, under the equal protection and privacy guarantees of the California Constitution, that governmental entities must treat all pregnancy options neutrally; and

**WHEREAS** both the U.S. and California Constitutions prohibit "sponsorship, financial support, and active involvement of the [state] in religious activity," and Article XVI, Section 5 of the California Constitution provides that no California state entity "shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church or sectarian denomination whatever...;"

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party opposes the proposed affiliation between UC San Francisco, a public university and one of the leading teaching hospitals in America, and Dignity Health, a Catholic hospital chain that openly discriminates against women and LGBTQ patients and requires its doctors to comply with religious directives, as it stands in direct conflict with the Party's platform and ethos; and we urge the University Of California Board Of Regents to adopt regulations that would prohibit any merger of UC hospitals with religious-affiliated hospitals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party will send a copy of this resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, State Attorney General Xavier Becerra, Secretary of State Alex Padilla, Speaker Anthony Rendon, President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins, Democratic members of the California State Assembly and State Senate representing Los Angeles County, and other members of the Board of Regents of the University of California.

Submitted by Richard Mathews, AD45, on behalf of DPSFV

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