



LAND
STEWARDSHIP
ACTION FUND

2022 RESOLUTION

Category: Agriculture & Food

Title: Soil-Healthy Farming

Be it resolved that:

The [insert party name here] prioritizes establishing and fully investing in a comprehensive soil health program to provide accessible grants and direct payments to farmers to implement and sustain soil-healthy practices; providing education, technical assistance, and research around soil-healthy practices to farmers; and setting a statewide goal to reach 5.75 million acres of farmland in soil-healthy practices by 2030, 11.5 million acres by 2035, and 23 million acres by 2040.

Background:

When we steward healthy soil, we are cultivating vibrant and resilient rural, urban, and suburban communities and economies. We cultivate thriving and resilient land that soaks up rain and sequesters carbon, while fostering healthy ecosystems with clean water and a sustainable climate for microorganisms, wildlife, and people. Yet, Minnesota's farmers are facing compounding challenges of extreme weather, consolidation and financial stress, and degrading topsoil. No matter where we live or what we look like, we depend on having a sustainable and just farm and food system – which requires public investment in farming that provides a public good.



It's past time we speak up about what our rural communities need. Let's speak up together!

CONTACT



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2022 RESOLUTION

Category: Health & Human Services

Title: MinnesotaCare Buy-In

Be it resolved that:

The [insert party name here] takes bold action to ensure every person in Minnesota is easily able to get all medical care they need without worrying about cost, beginning by expanding MinnesotaCare so that this high-quality public program is an option available to all Minnesotans.

Background:

As Minnesotans, we care for each other and value communities where everyone has the freedom to have a meaningful, healthy life. But in our rural communities, we are experiencing unaffordable health insurance premiums and deductibles, while hospitals and clinics are closing, and services cut. At the same time, we see major hospital systems and insurance companies posting large profits. Our current healthcare system is not making sure everyone can get the care they need.



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2022 RESOLUTION

Category: Agriculture & Food

Title: Regional Food Systems Infrastructure

Be it resolved that:

Be it resolved that the [insert party name here] prioritize building the infrastructure needed by small- and mid-sized farms, rural, and urban communities to create regional food systems that support regenerative farming and provide all people with the nourishing foods they want and need. This includes investment in small business development and transitions, processing infrastructure and marketing of goods and specialty crops that have environmental and economic benefits, and small-scale meat processing, including certification and training.

Background:

Corporate control of our farm and food system disconnects us from our natural world, creates scarcity, and threatens our health and environment. It exports wealth from the land and our rural and urban communities while denying small- and mid-sized farmers adequate access to markets and fair prices. Structural racism also upholds this tiered and unjust food system, from immigration and labor laws to the price of food and access to land. Building regional food systems in which small- and mid-sized farmers gain access to robust, growing markets and all people gain access to affordable, healthy food is a major challenge and a win we must achieve.



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2022 RESOLUTION

Category: Agriculture & Food

Title: Local Control & Animal Ag Consolidation

Be it resolved that:

The [insert party name here] commits to holding large-scale animal agricultural operations accountable for the pollution they create and the environmental and community costs of their methods of production. Additionally, the [insert party name here] commits to fight any attempt to weaken Minnesota's existing local control regulations that have allowed our communities to have a say over their own wellbeing.

Background:

Corporate factory farms pose serious risks for our rural communities, our health, and our environment. They push small and mid-sized farmers off the land and put pollutants, such as nitrates in the water and hydrogen sulfide into the air, affecting both people and our land and water. Having local control is a long-held Minnesota tradition that allows communities to directly protect their land, water, and air. We have seen examples in neighboring states of what happens when local control is stripped away and that can't be the fate of our rural communities.



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2022 RESOLUTION

Category: Civil, Human & Constitutional Rights

Title: Dismantling Racial, Gender, and Economic Injustice

Be it resolved that:

The [insert party name here], alongside elected and appointed officials, is committed to taking bold action to dismantle racial, gender, and economic injustice in our democracy, institutions, and public programs.

Background:

Racism, patriarchy, and economic injustice are powerful structural barriers that stand in the way of achieving strong rural, suburban, and urban communities in our state. For example, land access and secure land tenure are essential components for creating economic, racial, and gender justice, in part because land ownership is a critical vehicle for securing and passing on wealth in our society. Yet, the taking of land from Indigenous people and the historical denial of land access and tenure for people of color, women, and small farmers is central to the generations of economic, racial, and gender inequity in U.S. society. Structural racism also upholds this tiered and unjust food system, from immigration and labor laws to the price of food and access to land. We cannot move forward justly without comprehensively dismantling and addressing these injustices.



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