

# DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

## Platform Committee

6/16/2017

### RESOLUTION 2017.17

#### A resolution of the Democratic Party of Lane County

##### *Relating to the Sister District Project*

WHEREAS, local elections have national consequences; and

WHEREAS, Oregon is one of only 6 Democratic trifecta states, in contrast to 25 Republican trifecta states, the latter resulting in regressive legislation on issues of reproductive rights, LGBTQ rights, gun control, immigration, and more; and

WHEREAS, state-level policies often serve as templates for national policy, and also for other states to adopt; and

WHEREAS, Republican-dominated redistricting has resulted in gerrymandering that has been effective in reducing Democratic representation in state and federal government despite the fact that registered Democrats outnumber Republicans 48% to 44%; and

WHEREAS, Republicans now control both chambers in 33 states, and Democrats hold 1,000 fewer state legislative seats than they did in 2008; and

WHEREAS, if Republicans gain control of one more state legislature, they would be able to call for a Constitutional Convention to amend our federal Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the GOP has invested heavily in state legislative seats, providing financial support to state-level candidates that has far exceeded the support the national Democratic Party has provided to local candidates; and

WHEREAS, many Oregon Democrats are seeking an effective, structured, and research-based approach to helping support Democratic candidates for local and national office in other states as well as their own; and

WHEREAS, there has been a great upwelling of progressive grassroots activism since the 2016 election, and Democrats are eager for effective outlets for that activist impulse; and

WHEREAS, the Sister District Project is dedicated to supporting Democratic candidates

throughout the country by matching volunteers from predominately Democratic Congressional districts with “flippable” races in other states that they can support with such activities as fund-raising, phone-banking, and in-person canvassing and other traditional campaign activities; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Congressional District 4 is one of these predominately Democratic Congressional Districts which has resources that can be employed to elect Democratic candidates elsewhere in the country where resources are more limited.

THEREFORE the Democratic Party of Lane County Resolves:

SECTION 1. The DPLC endorses the efforts of the Sister District Project and will communicate that support to the State Senators and Representatives of Lane County by sending them a copy of this Resolution.

SECTION 2. The DPLC will further send a copy of this Resolution to Representative Peter DeFazio of Oregon Congressional District 4.

SECTION 3. The DPLC will send this Resolution to the Democratic Parties of the other counties within Oregon Congressional District 4.

**Resolved by the Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Lane County,  
Assembled in Eugene, Oregon, June 16 2017**

Signed:

X \_\_\_\_\_ .                      X \_\_\_\_\_ .

Chris Wig

Celine Swenson-Harris

Chair

Secretary