

Resolution to Repeal the Death Penalty and Use the Savings to Assist Murder Victims' Families and Help Prevent Violent Crime

WHEREAS more than 140 innocent people have been exonerated and released from death row after having been wrongfully convicted and spending a combined more than four centuries on death row; and

WHEREAS North Carolina's death penalty has led to seven innocent people being condemned to die in the modern era before they were exonerated; and

WHEREAS intentional and systematic racial bias has been shown to have a "persistent, persuasive and distorting role" in North Carolina's death penalty (*North Carolina v. Robinson*, 2012; Michigan State University, 2010; UNC, 2000); and

WHEREAS less than one percent of murders lead to death sentences and rarely involve "the worst of the worst" defendants (www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/arbitrariness); and

WHEREAS states without the death penalty have had consistently lower murder rates (www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/facts-about-deterrence-and-death-penalty); and,

WHEREAS North Carolina statutes already involve life imprisonment without the possibility of parole as an alternative to the death penalty; and

WHEREAS the death penalty in North Carolina annually costs more than 10 million taxpayer dollars per year more than life imprisonment without parole (Duke University, 2009); and

WHEREAS millions of North Carolina taxpayers' dollars spent on the death penalty every decade could be used for crime prevention and programs to offer assistance to murder victims' families;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that _____ calls on the Governor of North Carolina and our Legislators in the N.C. General Assembly, the President of the United States, and our Representative and Senators in the United States Congress to adopt policies and executive orders and to enact legislation repealing the death penalty in North Carolina and in the federal, and military jurisdictions and to use funds saved to assist murder victims' families and for crime prevention programs, and to ratify a suspension of all executions until such legislation is enacted into law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Governor of the State of North Carolina; the state Senator and the State Representative in the N.C. General Assembly who represent this community; the President of the United States; the two U.S. Senators from North Carolina; and, the Member of the U.S. House of Representatives representing this community.

Name of Organization/Congregation/Business: _____

Signature of Organization Representative: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Title of Organization Representative: _____

Street, City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Website: _____

Email Address of Organization or Its Representative: _____

Please return a copy to: PFADP • 110 W. Main St., Suite 2-G • Carrboro, NC 27510 • Tel 919.933.7567

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