

SPONSOR: Policy & Platform Committee

PRESENTERS/CONTACTS: Shane Que Hee, squehee@ucla.edu, 3102067388

SUBJECT: Human Rights and Civil Liberties Platform Plank

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE: Revised Platform Plank in the Social Justice and Liveable Community pillar. Social Justice and Equal Opportunity, Respect for Diversity, and Personal and Global Responsibility are the involved 10 Key Values of the GP.

PROPOSAL

(new=underlined; struckout=deleted)

ONLY THE CHANGES WILL BE DISCUSSED

Human Rights and Civil Liberties

Recognition of inherent dignity, and equal and inalienable rights, and liberties of all members of the human family without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or disability is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

Human rights are established to ensure the pursuit of happiness and fulfillment and to protect from and address prejudices and inequities in society, for example the genocide on and displacement of indigenous people and Nations Native Americans and the barbaric institution of slavery (these built upon the belief in white male supremacy) and the discrimination of people who are disabled, , which we as Greens condemn. In Under the systemic racism which arose from colonization and slavery's aftermath, people of color have generationally borne a particularly harsh brunt of violence and discrimination. while e

Civil liberties are established to ensure personal freedom and to prevent and address abuses by government or its proxies - for example, individuals wrongfully or politically jailed, fined, and/or silenced, or who have been abused or detained under past unethical laws that have been repealed. updated to correct its defects. Even small abuses can collect into a slow erosion of liberties.

~~The Green Party unequivocally condemns these evils, which continue to be a social problems.~~

We also recognize that reparations* are a debt (not charity) that is due from the government, corporations, and institutions that profited from slavery, racial exploitation,

~~and discrimination. The descendants of enslaved Africans, whose ancestors endured centuries of human rights violations, including the Transatlantic slave trade now recognized by the United Nations as a “crime against humanity”, have legitimate claims to reparations including monetary compensation. As our Nation has done in the past with respect to the Choctaw, the Lakota, the Lambuth, and more recently for Japanese-Americans and the European Jewish community, reparations are now due to address the debt still owed to descendants of enslaved Africans. We support the establishment of a reparations’ trust fund financed by recovered wealth and other profits accumulated from the slave trade beneficiaries, corporations that profited from racial exploitation, and potential taxes on wealth accumulated through historical systemic disparities. Descendants of enslaved Africans, through their chosen representatives and organizations, will have a central role in shaping the calculation, distribution, and use of the reparations trust fund.~~

~~The Universal Health Care platform plank contains the human rights/civil liberties associated with the medical and health care of individuals.~~

The Green Party shall strive to secure universal and effective recognition and upholding observance of the following:

The principles and spirit expressed in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights is an international standard that all nations, especially our own, must meet.

The right to liberty and security of person, and freedom from arbitrary arrest, detention, slavery or involuntary servitude.

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or capital punishment.

~~Everyone who works has the right to just and favorable remuneration for work and the ensuring of an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented if necessary by other means of social protection i.e. a living wage and/or basic income. [See the GPCA Social Safety Net plank.]~~

Everyone, without discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

A standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of every family member.

Equal opportunity to participate in the decision-making processes that affect their lives.

Equal opportunity in housing, employment, education, health care and to child custody

and adoption. [Also see the GPCA Universal Health Care platform plank.]

The right to free expression and assembly.

The right of citizens to leave their country and to return.

The state of human rights in all other nations must be a criterion in United States' policies regarding social, economic, diplomatic and strategic interaction with them.

The fundamental separation of church and state in the United States to the betterment of both.

The right to an official or public apology followed by the appropriate Reparations for the any individual or group wronged or harmed in the past or present. [Also see Reparations for Black American Freedmen plank].

The Green Party shall strive through education of individuals and communities to persuade all individuals to take responsibility for respecting fundamental human rights and civil liberties in all their social, economic and political activities.

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COMMITTEE DECISION: This revision was discussed by the Policy and Platform Committee 2024 zoom meetings of July 25, Aug 29, September 26, posted on the PPC listserve on October 3 and October 18, and a new edit was approved at PPC zoom meeting on October 24. More revisions were accepted during the lunch break of the November 23 2024 on Zoom General Assembly. The revisions were posted on the PPC listserve on January 30 2025 and discussed on February 27 with subsequent posting on the listserve on that day. Consensus was achieved at the March 27 2025 zoom meeting.

RESOURCES: This is a revision of an existing platform plank.