

**2023-4 Resolution Urging the State of California
To Pass \$25/Hour Minimum Wage for Healthcare Workers
Adopted April 20, 2023**

WHEREAS, California is facing a healthcare workforce crisis, noting that a shortage of 500,000 workers to care for the State's aging population existed even before the pandemic, and, after facing the trauma and dangerous working conditions of the pandemic and low pay and poor working conditions, huge numbers of healthcare workers are continuing to leave the field and many others are strongly considering leaving; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of the staffing crisis are felt by healthcare workers as well as their charges, and in a recent survey of over 30,000 healthcare workers, 83% responded their departments were understaffed, dramatizing the direct negative impact staffing shortages have on patient care; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing movement to increase healthcare worker pay in cities across California as too many healthcare workers are paid unsustainable wages — sometimes as low as \$15.50/hour – and since the start of 2022, Los Angeles, Long Beach, Downey, Inglewood, and Lynwood have passed \$25 minimum wage ordinances for local healthcare workers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Mateo Democratic Central Committee urges the State Legislature to pass SB 525 which establishes a statewide \$25/hour minimum wage for California healthcare workers in order to address the urgent patient care crisis caused by the current dangerous shortage of workers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Mateo Democratic Central Committee urges Senator Josh Becker, Senator Scott Wiener, Assemblymember Diane Papan, Assemblymember Marc Berman, and Assemblymember Phil Ting to support this urgently needed legislation.