

STATE DEMOCRATIC RESOLUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE F.D.P.

The Democratic State Conventions of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Massachusetts, and Oregon have already cast resolutions in support of the cause espoused by the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. Similar resolutions have been passed by the Democratic Executive Committees in New York and California. In addition, two of the most populous counties in Colorado, Denver and Adams, have passed resolutions which they will carry on to the State Democratic Convention on July 18.

The following are samples of some of these resolutions:

Michigan State Democratic Convention:

WHEREAS, the traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi is undemocratically constituted in that it discriminates against large numbers of citizens; and

WHEREAS, the traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi does not support the platform and policies of the National Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, the traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi in 1960 did not support the nominees of the Democratic National Convention despite a pledge made at the convention by leaders of that state's delegation; and

WHEREAS, a Freedom Democratic Party is being established in the state of Mississippi which is open to all citizens regardless of race and which will support the national platform and candidates; and

WHEREAS, the Freedom Democratic Party plans to seek to be seated in place of the delegation from the traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi at the 1964 Democratic National Convention;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the May, 1964 Washtenaw County Democratic Convention hereby asks the state convention to urge the Michigan delegation at the forthcoming national convention to take all appropriate action to seat the delegates from the Freedom Democratic Party of Mississippi if they should petition for credentials and to deny credentials to the delegates from the traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi.

(This resolution was passed unanimously by the Democratic State Convention June 12-13, Lansing, Michigan.)

Minnesota State Democratic Farmer-Labor Convention:

WHEREAS:

1. The traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi is a totally segregated party which does not permit hundreds of thousands of Negro citizens in Mississippi to vote or otherwise participate in its affairs.

2. The traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi did not support the 1960 platform or candidates of the national Democratic Party and now proclaims that it is not a part of the national Democratic Party.

3. A Freedom Democratic Party is being established in Mississippi which is open to all citizens regardless of race and is committed to support the national platform and candidates.

4. The Freedom Democratic Party is seeking to seat its delegates to the 1964 Democratic National Convention in place of the delegates from the traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi.

5. Minnesota welcomes this opportunity to demonstrate its devotion to justice and equal rights for all citizens regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Convention instructs the Minnesota delegation to the forthcoming Democratic National Convention:

1. To take all appropriate action to prevent the seating of the delegates from the traditional Democratic Party of Mississippi.

2. To consider the request to seat the delegates of the Freedom Democratic Party with sympathy and in the light of all the facts that will be presented to the Credentials Committee of the Democratic National Convention.

3. To follow the same policy if the credentials of any other State delegation are challenged on the grounds on which the Mississippi delegation will be challenged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be sent to the members of the Democratic National Committee, its Chairman, and to the Chairman of each State Democratic Party.

(This resolution was passed unanimously by the Democratic Farmer-Labor Party, meeting in convention June 27, 1964, at the St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul, Minnesota.)

New York State Democratic Committee:

As Democrats and as members of the National Democratic Party, we believe that the national convention, the governing body of the Democratic Party, should consist only of delegates devoted to the principles and objectives of the Party and who are duly elected by members of the Party.

WHEREAS, the present Democratic Party of some states publicly stated that they are independent of the National Democratic Party and that they do not support the policies and platform of the National Democratic Party or the Party itself; and that they oppose the principles, candidates, and objectives of the National Party; and,

WHEREAS, the present Democratic Party in certain states has systematically prevented Democrats, who happen to be Negroes, from voting in the Party primaries and from electing delegates to the Democratic National Convention and, therefore, has no properly elected delegates,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Credentials Committee of the New York State Delegation at the Democratic National Convention shall exercise every effort to make certain that only those delegates who are pledged to the principles, and objectives of the National Democratic Party as expressed in the Party platform be seated as representing their state Party.

(This resolution was passed by the New York State Democratic Committee on June 15, 1964).°

Wisconsin State Democratic Convention:

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin is firmly committed to the principle of one-man one-vote; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic party of this state is committed thru its platforms and its candidates to actively strive for legislation that will ensure equality under the law for all citizens; and,

WHEREAS, in certain states such as Mississippi delegates are selected by a non-representative white minority; and,

WHEREAS, the official Democratic Party in certain states has not supported the national ticket or the national platform particularly in regard to civil rights;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wisconsin delegation to the Democratic National Convention be urged to oppose the accrediting of those state delegations that are not loyal to the basic civil rights principles of the of the Democratic national platform; and Be it further resolved that the Wisconsin delegation to the Democratic National Convention be urged to support the accreditation of the "Freedom Delegation" as an expression of our support for the principle of one-man one-vote, and to encourage those who are working for voter registration of a disenfranchised minority.

(This resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote at the Wisconsin State Democratic Convention, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 20, 1964.