

Your Name: Tim Sparling

Title of Resolution: Resolving to Protect Non-Citizen Veterans Subject to Deportation or Removal

Short Description (Max 5 sentences): Non-citizen veterans are service members who sacrificed for our Country despite having no citizenship or status pending naturalization. They are a key part of our local communities and cultural identity in Arizona. Despite this, the 2019 Government Accountability Office (“GAO”) study shows that Federal authorities continue to deport or remove our veterans in blatant disregard of their sacrifice while denying or limiting their pathway to naturalization. We have a responsibility as citizens, Arizonans, and Democrats to protect our non-citizen veterans in recognition of their service. We must call our public officials to act and prevent further unwarranted deportation or removal of non-citizen veterans in our State.

Reason for Resolution (if needed):

Part of Party Platform Resolution Relates to: Protecting fundamental freedoms, civil rights, and smart and fair immigration policy.

Proposed Resolution:

You can include up to 5 “whereas” clauses and 3 “Be it Resolved” clauses.

Whereas, from the time of the Revolutionary War, America has relied heavily on immigrants to shoulder its military duties; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Defense establishes policies governing non-citizen eligibility to join the military, yet the Government Accountability Office found that hundreds of veterans face deportation or removal, with ninety-two veterans suffering actual deportation between 2013 and 2018; and

Whereas, the GAO found that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) consistently fails to follow internal policies necessary to identify and track non-citizen veterans to prevent their deportation or removal while the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) continues to deport or remove non-citizen veterans despite these failures; and

Whereas, greater protections are needed to safeguard non-citizen service members who sacrifice their time, effort, safety, health, and personal welfare to guarantee our freedoms as American citizens;

Whereas, the Arizona Democratic Party recognizes that non-citizen veterans are vital to our community and cultural identity and is therefore responsible for ensuring their protection from unwarranted deportation or removal;

Therefore, be it Resolved, that the Arizona Democratic Party affirms its support for non-citizen veterans and in recognition for their service and selfless sacrifice;

Therefore, be it Further Resolved, that the Arizona Democratic Party publicly supports policies designed to protect non-citizen veterans from unwarranted deportation or removal while giving them a meaningful path to naturalization;

Therefore, be it Further Resolved that the Arizona Democratic Party shall distribute this resolution to all Democratic officials in Arizona, the leadership of the Democratic National Committee, and to the public through appropriate channels.

Resolution Submitted by (At minimum, a resolution must be submitted by at least one ADP state committee member):

Caucus/Council: Arizona Democratic Party Veterans Caucus

These individuals(No Party Titles): Tim Sparling, Ricardo Reyes, and Alex Murillo