

A RESOLUTION TO FULLY FUND PRISON EMPLOYEES AND FULLY FUNDING COUNTIES FOR TREATMENT/SERVICES FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

WHEREAS, When North Carolina closed centered mental health hospitals in the state, it was promised that the state would adequately fund community services for the mentally ill; and

WHEREAS, Many citizens without fault suffer serious mental illness and need mental health treatment and services; and

WHEREAS, Many mentally ill citizens have become homeless or become prisoners in jails awaiting trial or prisoners in N. C. prisons; and

WHEREAS, Our prisons are too full and understaffed leading to danger for both prisoners and employees and expensive overtime pay; and

WHEREAS, Local communities do not have funds to provide services for the mentally ill and those services/treatments have traditionally been funded by the federal and state governments; and

WHEREAS, Treatment and services for the mentally ill provided by local mental health organizations can be less expensive than the cost of housing and treating mentally ill patients in hospitals or placing them in jails or prisons; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party supports and encourages the General Assembly to provide funds to fully staff N. C. prisons, to raise salaries if necessary to fully staff those prisons, and to fully fund mental health treatment and services in each county.

Submitted by the Randolph County Democratic Party County Convention