

Prepared by Jerry Markatos, Resolutions chair, Chatham County Democratic Party

We all prefer resolutions we can quickly and easily discuss at convention.

Here's how we have operated in Chatham for years, with exceptions made to affirm the good work and good intentions of sponsors who might have refined them further but gained approval anyhow, from fellow Democrats, on important issues.

Resolutions get combined and refined as they move up from county to district to state conventions, so perfection is less important than relevance to current issues.

Rule one:

Brevity and clarity, even with complex issues

Rule two:

Follow the format shown below

Rule three:

Promptly forward all resolutions passed to the resolutions chair [markatos@mindspring.com](mailto:markatos@mindspring.com) (or the county chair if you can't find my email address)

Rule four:

If it's passed as a statement of one or two sentences, or isn't really in final form, send it to me as is, with contact info for the member who presented it and the resolutions committee will get it into shape.

**RULE FIVE:** make sure I can find it  
**PUT THE WORD "RESOLUTION" IN CAPS IN THE SUBJECT LINE**  
so it won't get lost in the sea of incoming email.  
**AND IF YOU SEND IT AS AN ATTACHMENT, SEND IT ALSO AS PLAIN TEXT WITHIN THE EMAIL.** (plain text is preferred, since file formats vary and can present problems.)

I will confirm receipt, so if you don't hear back, contact me or send again.

I'm sending a sample resolution. It opposes a so-called trade agreement that has hundreds of pages of dangerous pypasses of US law, strikes hard-won regulatory safeguards, and short-circuits due process.

but first, the **BARE BONES SAMPLE RESOLUTION**

**TITLE, expressing the Intent [leave out the word "resolution]**

**Whereas, ..... semicolon “and”**

**Whereas ..... [reason for the proposed conclusion or action] semicolon “and**

**[as few whereases as you can boil it down to unless the public education function of the resolution calls for a detailed pitch]**

**final Whereas will end with a comma**

**Therefore be it resolved, [your recommended action]**

**If a further specified action is needed, end the prior “resolved” clause with a semicolon and begin the additional clause with**

**Be it further resolved, .....**

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Jerry Markatos 919 542-2139  
Resolutions chair

PS:

So here’s a resolution we will consider at Hadley’s precinct meeting:  
Resolution: JUST SAY NO to Fast Track for “Trans Pacific Partnership”

Whereas, the rising gap between rich and poor is deepened by an increasingly rigged global economy where new rights for corporations and wealthy individuals are created by NAFTA style agreements like the proposed Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP); and

Whereas, the secretly negotiated TPP forces government to defend standards for health, safety and the environment against claims of “lost future profits” in rigged tribunals populated by the same lawyers who specialize in filing such claims; and

Whereas, the cost of defending such claims from all the Trans Pacific partners is predictably huge and would discourage passage of responsible legislation; and

Whereas, under 20 years of NAFTA, NC’s working people have lost earning power exceeding by \$3300 per worker per year the savings created by cheap imports [include source citation]; and

Whereas, “Fast Track” status allows only an up or down vote, denying Congress its right to correct or amend harmful provisions in a bill hundreds of pages long, that’s not currently accessible to Congress or the public;

Therefore be it Resolved, The Chatham County Democratic Party calls on all our NC representatives in Congress to oppose Fast Track status for the TPP, and if Fast Track is achieved by the Republican majority, to VOTE NO to the TPP when it comes for a vote.