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Resolution opposing Fast Track (Trade Promotion Authority)

Resolution of the 34th District Democrats
Opposing Fast Track (Trade Promotion Authority)

WHEREAS, the 34th District Democrats support free and fair trade policy that produces shared prosperity and promotes fair and sustainable economic activity across the globe; and

WHEREAS, the current U.S. approach to trade policy reflected in agreements such as NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), CAFTA (Central America Free Trade Agreement), the WTO, etc. poses a serious threat to worker rights, environmental protection, public health systems, family and local agriculture, and democratic values, both here and abroad; and

WHEREAS, Fast Track (Trade Promotion Authority) the mechanism used to shield harmful trade agreements from Congressional review and insulate such agreements from public accountability is up for renewal in July 2007; and

WHEREAS, unless we end Fast Track, the public interest in human rights, worker rights, environmental protection, and public health protection will continue to be ignored by the Bush Administration in trade negotiations; and

WHEREAS, now is the time for a fresh start on trade policy, allowing for broader participation, more transparency, and more emphasis on public interest values;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 34th District Democrats oppose Fast Track Trade Promotion Authority and will work to mobilize Democrats in our district against its renewal. We will communicate this position to elected officials and the public at large.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we will advocate for fair trade policy, including a trade negotiating process that allows for broad participation by all sectors of society, and that ensures that commercial and investor interests are balanced with the general public interest in human rights, labor rights, environmental protection, and public health protection.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Slack, 34th District Democrats
May, 16, 2007