



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION CONCERNING TIMING OF U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE SELECTION

WHEREAS, With the passing of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, our country has lost one of its greatest legal minds – one who stood steadfast in his belief that the Constitution should be interpreted according to its original meaning;

WHEREAS, Justice Scalia believed that the freedoms and liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights are protected by the Constitution's system of checks and balances on the federal government's three branches, and that Republican abdication of responsibility for vetting federal judicial nominees would create a power imbalance that dooms the Republic;

WHEREAS, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell stated that the Senate should not confirm a replacement for Justice Scalia until after the 2016 election, stating: "The American people should have a voice in the selection of their next Supreme Court Justice";

WHEREAS, Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus stated: "For 80 years, there has never been a nomination and confirmation to the Supreme Court in a presidential election year", that "[t]his is not about the person, this is about the Court", and "[a]s Democrats have already admitted, their breach of decades of precedent is all about scoring political points";

WHEREAS, Leader McConnell and Judiciary Committee Chairman Senator Charles Grassley published a piece in *The Washington Post* arguing that Democrats should not rob voters of their input in replacing Justice Scalia;

WHEREAS, Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee have reached a consensus neither to have hearings for, nor to vote on, a Supreme Court nominee in 2016;

WHEREAS, All of the Republican presidential candidates are united in their support of the Senate Judiciary Committee's decision that the next President should fill the current Supreme Court vacancy;

WHEREAS, Democrat Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is upset that the Republicans will not vote on President Obama's nominee; however, when she was a Senator, she voted to block President George W. Bush's nomination of Justice Samuel Alito;

WHEREAS, President Obama and Vice-President Biden voted to filibuster Justice Alito's confirmation in 2006 and now both regret that action;

WHEREAS, In 1992, then-Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Senator Joe Biden stated: "[I]f the President...presses an election year nomination, the Senate Judiciary Committee should seriously consider not scheduling confirmation hearings on the nomination until after the political campaign season is over";

WHEREAS, Senator Chuck Schumer said in a July 2007 speech to a progressive legal society: "We should reverse the presumption of confirmation" and "we should not confirm any Bush nominee to the Supreme Court except in extraordinary circumstances"; and

WHEREAS, With the 2014 election, the American people delivered a mandate to the newly Republican-controlled Senate to reject President Obama's vision for a more liberal America where social change is undemocratically legislated through the courts; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee believes that the appointment of a Supreme Court justice directly impacts our country for generations;

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee believes that the 2014 election was a clear signal from voters that they want input into the judicial nomination process and that the will of the voters must be respected; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee stands with Leader McConnell, Senator Grassley, and members of the Judiciary Committee in their commitment to exercise its discretion to forgo action until the next president nominates a candidate for confirmation to the Supreme Court.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR SUPPORT OF SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAN'S BALLISTIC MISSILE TESTING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Iran is bound to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), an agreement restricting Iran's nuclear activities;

WHEREAS, Iran will receive an estimated \$150 billion in sanctions relief for fulfilling its obligations to restrict its nuclear activities under JCPOA signed between it, the United States and other P5+1 members (China, France, Russia, Germany, and the United Kingdom), and the European Union;

WHEREAS, Since agreeing to the JCPOA on July 14, 2015 Iran has continued development of its ballistic missile program, firing multiple variations of ballistic missiles capable of delivering a nuclear weapon against its neighbors;

WHEREAS, There may be some outstanding firms and individuals that have been or are doing business with Iran related to these activities; and

WHEREAS, Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) has introduced legislation to impose tough sanctions on Iran in response to ballistic missile violations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee (RNC) hereby calls upon President Barack Obama to denounce the current Iran ballistic missile development program;

RESOLVED, The RNC announces the support of the Ayotte sanctions legislation which is currently under debate in the U.S. Senate; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The RNC demands the President and Secretary of State fully enforce any new US Senate sanctions against Iran and any individual or firm doing business related to their reckless ballistic missile development program.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

WHEREAS, Taiwan conducted its sixth consecutive democratic presidential election on January 16, 2016, which resulted in the third peaceful transfer of power on the island and the inauguration of the first democratically-elected woman president, Tsai Ing-wen, in the Chinese cultural world;

WHEREAS, President Ma Ying-jeou's leadership proved essential in promoting U.S.-Taiwan relations and maintaining Taiwan as a shining beacon for democracy and freedom in Asia and the new Administration of President Tsai Ing-wen will continue to do so; and

WHEREAS, The Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances serve as the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee (RNC) congratulates Taiwan on conducting another fair, transparent and free election;

RESOLVED, The RNC recognizes this is an historic event for the free people of Taiwan and Taiwan's multi-party democracy;

RESOLVED, The RNC recognizes that Taiwan's peaceful political transformation from an authoritarian society to a democratic one and the orderly transition from one administration to another should serve as an example for oppressed people everywhere in the world, particularly on the Chinese Mainland;

RESOLVED, The RNC commends Taiwan as a strategic partner, a close ally and a model and advocate of democracy in the Asia-Pacific region;

RESOLVED, The RNC will continue to work with the new President Tsai Ing-wen and her Administration to uphold President Reagan's 1982 "**Six Assurances**" to Taiwan as the cornerstone of United States–Taiwan relations which are the imperative guidelines to conduct relations between the United States and Taiwan and stipulate that:

1. The U.S. has not agreed to set a date for ending arms sales to Taiwan;
2. The U.S. has not agreed to hold prior consultations with the PRC on arms sales to Taiwan;
3. The U.S. will not play any mediation role between Taipei and Beijing;

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4. The U.S. has not agreed to revise the Taiwan Relations Act;
5. The U.S. has not altered its position regarding sovereignty over Taiwan;
6. The U.S. will not exert pressure on Taiwan to negotiate with the PRC;

RESOLVED, The RNC encourages high-level military to military exchanges between the U.S. and Taiwan among uniformed flag officers;

RESOLVED, The RNC salutes America's long-standing ally, Taiwan, with whom the United States shares the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, a free market economy, and the rule of law;

RESOLVED, The RNC recognizes that America's friendship with the people of Taiwan dates back over seven decades to the dark days of the Second World War when they stood together with us as our Republic of China allies against the world-wide threat of Axis tyranny;

RESOLVED, The RNC calls for the continued sale of sophisticated defensive weapons to Taiwan, including diesel submarines;

RESOLVED, The RNC opposes unilateral steps by either side to alter the status quo in the Taiwan Strait on the principle that all issues regarding the island's future must be resolved peacefully, through dialogue, and be agreeable to the people of Taiwan; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The RNC continues to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in various international organizations in order to ensure Taiwan's international space as a responsible stakeholder.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR INQUIRIES INTO THE 2012 BENGHAZI ATTACKS TO BE SUSTAINED AND FOR THE RESPONSIBLE PARTIES TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE

WHEREAS, The attacks on the American consulate in Benghazi, Libya on September 11, 2012 resulted in the deaths of four Americans and constituted an egregious security failure;

WHEREAS, High ranking military and State Department officials responsible for protecting the Benghazi consulate have for years denied a full and clear explanation of that failure to the families of the victims of that attack, and to the American public;

WHEREAS, High ranking Obama administration officials such as former U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton deliberately and misleadingly cited a minimally circulated video on the Internet as the cause of the attack, when in reality the attacks were premeditated and carried out by the terrorist organization Ansar-al-Sharia;

WHEREAS, Families of the victims of the Benghazi attack have accused Hillary Clinton of citing the same video to them as the immediate cause of the attack days afterward; therefore, lying to them;

WHEREAS, Hillary Clinton and other former State Department officials have, at best, only begrudgingly complied with ongoing investigations into the Benghazi attack;

WHEREAS, Hillary Clinton and her top aides ignored repeated recommendations from State Department personnel on the ground in Benghazi to improve security measures prior to the attack; and

WHEREAS, Americans preparing to elect a new president deserve complete transparency from a former Secretary of State running for president; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee (RNC) encourages the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Benghazi to continue to pursue the complete truth of the Benghazi attacks and hold accountable the individuals responsible for such an egregious breakdown of security;

RESOLVED, The RNC calls on Hillary Clinton, Ambassador Rice, and other State Department officials to apologize for falsely claiming an internet video as the motivation for the attacks and admit their misleading rhetoric to the public; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The RNC recognizes that Hillary Clinton has not shown the appropriate leadership qualities necessary to serve as Commander in Chief and should withdraw from the presidential race.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REPUBLICAN LEADERS' FIGHT AGAINST THE PRESIDENT'S UNLAWFUL EXECUTIVE ACTIONS ON IMMIGRATION

WHEREAS, The constitutional republic known as the United States of America is instituted on a system of checks and balances and separation of powers between the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches of government;

WHEREAS, Article 1 of the Constitution clearly and conclusively states: "All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives";

WHEREAS, Within the legislative branch of government the House of Representatives is specifically designed as the representative body of the people;

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has bypassed the legislative process and created law through executive fiat in regards to immigration law, specifically the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents ("DAPA") program;

WHEREAS, The state of Texas filed a lawsuit, joined by twenty-five other states, to stop the implementation of President Obama's executive overreach actions on immigration, which was heard by the Supreme Court;

WHEREAS, House Republicans filed an amicus brief, arguing that, "neither any immigration law now on the books nor the Constitution empowers [Obama] to authorize—let alone facilitate—the prospective violation of those laws on a massive class-wide scale"; and

WHEREAS, Senate Republicans filed an amicus brief with the Supreme Court contesting the President's unilateral move, which the lawmakers say represents a "stark contravention to federal law"; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee (RNC) unquestionably concludes that President Obama has subverted the Constitution, the rule of law, the power of the legislative branch and our representative form of self-government through his actions;

RESOLVED, The RNC supports the Republican-led House and Senate's stand on behalf of the citizens of

the United States and its defense of the Constitution, particularly legislative powers vested in the Congress;
and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee encourages all Republicans to join in support of the House and Senate's defense of the checks and balances of power so farsightedly constituted by our Founding Fathers.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING HILLARY CLINTON FOR THE USAGE OF A SECRET EMAIL SERVER AS SECRETARY OF STATE AND CALLING FOR HER TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE

WHEREAS, The American people place their trust in public officials to obey the law and abide by high standards of moral conduct, leadership, and propriety;

WHEREAS, Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, in disregard of State Department protocol, established a private, secret email server on which she conducted official government business;

WHEREAS, The passage of correspondence that was classified as “Confidential,” “Secret” or “Top Secret” through this server potentially violated State Department regulations for protecting sensitive material;

WHEREAS, This secret server was insufficiently protected against cyberattacks and the potential for exposure of sensitive intelligence and diplomatic material, thus jeopardizing national security;

WHEREAS, Hillary Clinton has demonstrated a pattern of dishonesty and inconsistency in explaining the circumstances surrounding her secret server;

WHEREAS, Americans about to make a choice for president should have access to the government records of a candidate who formerly served as Secretary of State; and

WHEREAS, It has required a congressional investigation, a State Department request years after Clinton left office, and the order of a federal judge in a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit to force the release of emails from her secret server; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee (RNC) calls on Hillary Clinton to make a full and honest disclosure of the details surrounding her secret server;

RESOLVED, The RNC encourages the Justice Department and State Department to continue to pursue their ongoing investigations into whether Hillary Clinton broke the law in conducting business on her secret server;

RESOLVED, The RNC implores the Justice Department to honor the principle of equal justice under the law and levy the appropriate criminal charges should its investigation find Hillary Clinton to be in violation of the law; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The RNC concludes that Hillary Clinton's choice to establish a private email server was a gross exhibition of poor judgment and endangered national security in a way that disqualifies her from serving as Commander in Chief.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

WHEREAS, The purpose of the American criminal justice system is to make our communities safer while honoring the principles of liberty and justice for all and to function cost-effectively;

WHEREAS, State prisons confine 1.3 million offenders which result in 2.7 million children having a parent incarcerated, and the expectation is that more than 90 percent of these offenders will eventually exit prison and return to their communities;

WHEREAS, Corrections expenditures are the second fastest growing budget item for states, and taxpayer dollars spent just on prisons and jails now exceed \$80 billion annually;

WHEREAS, The federal prison population has exploded, increasing 734 percent from 1980 to 2015, while taxpayer spending has spiked 595 percent;

WHEREAS, Despite significant increases in incarceration and associated costs, taxpayers are not receiving the public safety return they deserve because lengthy prison terms increase recidivism rates for low-level offenders, with more than half of state offenders returning to prison within three years—any government program with a failure rate that high would earn justifiable criticism;

WHEREAS, The size of criminal and regulatory codes have dramatically increased in recent years with more than 300,000 federal penal laws and regulatory offenses carrying a criminal penalty; with most created by unelected Washington bureaucrats for actions not traditionally sanctioned by criminal law;

WHEREAS; With the sheer number of newly created potential offenses regulating ordinary business practices, it is essential to our constitutional liberties that the government prove a certain level of criminal intent, as it is what separates an accident from a crime;

WHEREAS, Conservative-led states, such as Texas, Alabama, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Utah, have adopted policies that have been proven to safely reduce incarceration rates, save billions in taxpayer dollars, significantly cut crime rates, and make our communities safer by reducing recidivism and allowing law enforcement to focus on serious and violent offenders; and

WHEREAS, These policies increase personal responsibility, remove government obstacles to putting ex-

offenders back to work, and use proven and effective faith-based, educational, and rehabilitative programs which allow these individuals to lead productive, crime-free lives; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee (RNC) supports effective criminal justice reforms for nonviolent offenders at the state and federal level that protect our communities, respect crime victims, restore families, safely reduce prison populations, decrease the size and scope of government overreach and spending, and increase transparency and accountability;

RESOLVED, The RNC urges state legislators and Congress to coordinate with families and faith-based communities, provide substance abuse treatment to addicts, emphasize work and education, and implement policies that cut costs while obtaining better outcomes; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The RNC calls for a reevaluation and elimination of excessive government regulation where inadvertent noncompliance has been deemed a criminal offense.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE REGULATION FREEDOM AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, The business community in the United States, comprised of both large and small enterprises, currently struggles under the numerous and onerous federal regulatory burdens imposed by unelected bureaucrats via a bloated and oversized federal government;

WHEREAS, These burdens eventually make themselves known to the American consumer in the form of cost increases on all facets of the essentials of life, becoming in essence a hidden tax equal to an amount larger than the gross domestic product of some of our major allies;

WHEREAS, Previous attempts to curtail these burdens by legislative action have been met with little to no success, while the regulatory processes continue to accelerate and are now being used to carry out functions similar to a socialist/communist central planning committee, creating a stranglehold on the liberty of the American people;

WHEREAS, These legislative failures have given rise to several plans for both short and long term relief, including, but not limited to, a proposed constitutional amendment referred to as the Regulation Freedom Amendment (RFA); and

WHEREAS, The RFA states: "Whenever one quarter of the Members of the U.S. House or the U.S. Senate transmit to the President their written declaration of opposition to a proposed federal regulation, it shall require a majority vote of the House and Senate to adopt that Regulation"; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee (RNC) is concerned with the economic and personal freedoms currently being sacrificed and curtailed due to exponential increases of federal regulations by unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats and encourages and directs elected officials to pass the RFA; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The RNC supports a combined RFA effort with Republican entities such as the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC), the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC), the Republican Governors Association (RGA), and all state legislatures with a Republican held majority for the passage of the RFA to curtail federal regulations.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

Resolution Honoring Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia

WHEREAS, The United States lost one of its greatest legal minds when Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court from 1986 to 2016, passed away on February 13, 2016;

WHEREAS, Antonin Scalia was a dedicated servant of the American people, serving not only as a Supreme Court Justice, but also as an attorney in the federal government and as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit;

WHEREAS, Justice Scalia singlehandedly gave intellectual force to Textualism and Originalism in the Supreme Court's jurisprudence, standing against "living constitutionalism" and judicial activism;

WHEREAS, Justice Scalia's masterful majority opinion in *District of Columbia v. Heller* upheld American citizens' fundamental right to bear arms;

WHEREAS, Justice Scalia's forceful dissents in *NFIB v. Sebelius* and *King v. Burwell* demonstrated with pinpoint accuracy the precise unconstitutionality of Obamacare;

WHEREAS, Justice Scalia had a lasting impact on the Court by encouraging fealty to the Constitution's original meaning, and opposing judicial legislating through an "evolving" Constitution;

WHEREAS, Justice Scalia's devotion to the text of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights carried out the work of the Founding Fathers of our country; and

WHEREAS, Justice Scalia was a loving husband and father, a loyal and faithful friend, a great mentor and teacher to so many in the legal community, and a devout servant of God; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Republican National Committee (RNC) hereby extends its most solemn condolences for the loss of Justice Scalia to his wife Maureen and to their nine children;

RESOLVED, The RNC recognizes the immense and lasting impact of Justice Scalia's presence on the Supreme Court of the United States; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The RNC honors the memory of Antonin Scalia, his forceful intellect, his rapier wit, his transformative jurisprudence, and above all, his dedication to preserving and defending the Constitution of the United States of America.



Republican National Committee

Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER FIRST LADY NANCY REAGAN

WHEREAS, the United States and Republican Party lost an iconic leader in the passing of First Lady Nancy Reagan on March 6, 2016;

WHEREAS, The role of First Lady is an inspirational title and role within any presidential administration;

WHEREAS, It is the privilege of the First Lady to pursue special initiatives to improve the lives of the American people;

WHEREAS, Nancy Reagan showed her dedication to and concern for America's youth with her anti-drug initiatives;

WHEREAS, Nancy Reagan skillfully helped manage White House affairs and served as one of President Ronald Reagan's most valuable advisors;

WHEREAS, Nancy Reagan led an initiative to renovate the White House and consequently reclaim national pride in one of our nation's most culturally significant public buildings; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Reagan enjoyed friendships with many members of the Republican Party and was a great asset to our mission as a Party; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The RNC honors the memory of Nancy Reagan and her contributions to our Party and our country; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The RNC encourages all members of the Republican Party to strive to emulate and pursue their public service with the dignity and trailblazing spirit of Nancy Reagan.