National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii

Resolution 2017-03

Commending the Oahu County Democrats for Recent Support of Civil Rights for the Blind

WHEREAS, this organization passed Resolution 2016-02, Regarding a Blind Person’s Right to Parent, and Resolution 2016-04, Regarding Support for the Transitioning to Integrated and Meaningful Employment Act; and,

WHEREAS, blind individuals continue to face unfair, preconceived, and unnecessary societal biases as well as antiquated attitudes regarding their ability to successfully parent their children; and,

WHEREAS, the legal system in the State of Hawaii provides no procedural safeguards to ensure that blindness and its assumed consequences are not used as determinants of the fitness of a parent or prospective parent; and,

WHEREAS, as demonstrated by the states of Vermont and New Hampshire, which no longer contain entities paying individuals with disabilities less than the minimum wage, subminimum wage employment programs are no longer needed; and

WHEREAS, there exist ten (10) entities in the State of Hawaii holding Section 14(c) special wage certificates from the United States Department of Labor authorizing them to pay subminimum wages to workers with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Oahu County Democrats passed Resolution 17-09, Regarding a Blind Person’s Right to Parent, and Resolution 17-10, Support for the Transitioning to Integrated and Meaningful Employment Act; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii in Convention assembled this first day of October, 2017, in Honolulu, Hawaii, that this organization commend the Oahu County Democrats for their commitment to these two causes and offer its full support in passing appropriate legislation.