

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

CENTRAL COMMITTEE FLOOR RESOLUTION

9/13/2018 – Curtis Hall, Sacramento

RESOLUTION 2018-18

*Applauding Efforts by the Legislature to Increase Law Enforcement Accountability,
and Calling for the Passage of further Protections*

WHEREAS, The Legislature has turned its attention toward critical issues concerning violence by law enforcement officers against members of our communities (in violation of their civil rights and human dignity) and the conflict of interest that arises when law enforcement agencies are left to police their own conduct, by passing SB 1303 to proliferate medical examiners in the place of coroners, SB 1421 giving the public greater access to police records in cases of police violence, and AB 3131 allowing for better public oversight of the acquisition and use of military equipment by local law enforcement agencies;

WHEREAS, Police officers kill over 1,000 Americans each year—a disproportionate number of whom are unarmed, Black, Latino, or Native American—at a per capita rate far above every other democracy;

WHEREAS, The majority of these killings receive little or no media attention, and lead to little or no discipline of the officers involved, effectively granting all police officers unlimited discretion in using lethal force, at will, with total legal immunity and general impunity, even when it is unnecessary when disarming, apprehending, or defending oneself from a suspect; and

WHEREAS, All possible efforts to de-escalate a conflict with a suspect must be taken before lethal force is used, and statute should reflect this basic principle;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County celebrates the passage of AB 3131 (oversight of federal military equipment), SB 1421 (police disciplinary records), SB 1303 (Medical Examiners replacing Coroners) as important steps in securing public safety and civil rights, and calls upon Governor Brown to sign these bills into law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County calls upon the California Democratic Party to endorse and support legislation to tighten use-of-force regulations to a "necessity" standard, and calls upon like-minded organizations to declare their support as well.

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Sponsor: Jeff Otter