RESOLUTION 2019-24

Condemning Acts of Violence against Members of the California State Senate

WHEREAS, The capacity to maintain peaceful disagreements over political affairs is a hallmark of any civilized representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, The norm against violence in American politics was established by the peaceful transfer of the presidency between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson after the Election 1800; and

WHEREAS, Any citizen or resident of the United States, regardless of whether they are elected to public office or not, should enjoy the right to participate in the American political process without fear of assault or physical reprisals; and

WHEREAS, On the 21st of August, 2019, an anti-vaccine extremist physically assaulted State Senator Richard Pan in downtown Sacramento while live-streaming the incident on Facebook; and

WHEREAS, On the 13th of September 2019, an anti-vaccine extremist tossed a red liquid that appeared to be blood into the State Senate chambers, splashing several senators and potentially exposing them to harmful pathogens; and

WHEREAS, If violations of the norm against political violence go unpunished and escape condemnation, then future acts of violence could be undeterred or even encouraged;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County condemns the acts of violence committed against State Senator Richard Pan and the other members of the California State Senate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County calls upon the residents of Sacramento County to condemn all acts of political violence.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County encourages all residents of Sacramento County to participate in California’s representative democracy without fear of assault or physical harm.

Sponsor: Paco Torres