

1976-2006

# NAACP POLICY HANDBOOK

Resolutions Approved by the National Board of Directors

[DRAFT]

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**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Civil Rights

# Affirmative Action

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes any actions which prevent or weaken affirmative action programs. The enforcement of affirmative action policies should be strengthened. The Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) should be a person with a strong civil rights background who supports affirmative action and the responsibilities of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended; and other acts;*

*NAACP units work to ensure should ensure that there is no interruption to the functioning of the EEOC so that it may step up to the enforcement of affirmative action and Title VII, and that the NAACP seek to have the recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (outlined in the "Affirmative Action in the 1980s") adopted to eradicate discrimination in the United States. The NAACP opposes House Resolution 12603 and all similar measures.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP opposes discrimination on the basis of race, national origin and sex, and finds legislation that prohibits the definition of goals as a part of affirmative action or prevents courts of law from enforcing the provisions of affirmative action adverse to the elimination of discrimination.

Reagan Administration advisors urged the President to reconsider the entire philosophy of Affirmative Action Reagan Administration advisors have urged the following: Repeal of Executive Order 12067 which placed EEOC in the lead role of civil rights policy for the federal sector, imposing a freeze on the issuance of any new EEO guidelines and court suits for one year, disallowing evidence of statistical data to prove patterns of discrimination, immediately reorganizing the EEOC to implement President Reagan's policy disallowing as proof numbers of individuals of particular racial or sexual identity to prove a pattern of racial discrimination unless individuals can prove that they were denied employment or advancement because of discrimination, allowing test and biographical histories as a legitimate basis upon which to consider employees, providing that employers should not be obligated to seek out certain percentages of workers of each group to fulfill a "quota" or "goal" and providing the employees should be considered innocent unless the proof of guilt involving intent to discriminate is proven,

Affirmative Action Programs do have a basis in law and are established in the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-261).

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1976: Affirmative Action Legislation
- 1978: H.J Resolution 534
- 1981: Affirmative Action

- ◆ 1982: Labor and Industry: Affirmative Action Employment and Contracting Goals
- ◆ 1983: Labor and Industry: Affirmative Action
- ◆ 1995: Legislative and Political Affairs: Affirmative Action
- ◆ 1996: Affirmative Action: Support for Affirmative Action
- ◆ 1998: Legislative and Political Affairs: NAACP Support for Affirmative Action
- ◆ 2002: Legislative and Political Affairs: Formal Opposition to all Anti-Affirmative Action Initiatives
- ◆ 2005: Legislative and Political Affairs: Defending Affirmative Action
- ◆ (Cross-reference 1978: The Bakke Decision)

## Civil Rights Act of 1964

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP and its branches call upon the President and the Congress to ensure that the Federal Government complies with Federal laws and provides leadership to the private sector by setting an example of full compliance with antidiscrimination provisions of Federal laws. The Senate and House Judiciary Committees and the Senate Committee on Government Operations and the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service are urged to consider the report sponsored by Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins of California and to enact legislation to eliminate civil rights violations perpetrated by departments and agencies of the Federal Government.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Federal Government does not provide the necessary resources to enforce anti-discrimination provisions of Federal laws. The Federal Government imposes stringent demands on private industry to comply with the provisions of Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, as amended, and Executive orders prohibiting employment discrimination; yet it inadequately enforces Title VII as applied to Federal employment and is derelict in its responsibility to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to gain employment and promotion in Federal service.

Numbers of black and white people, men and women, are denied equal employment opportunity in the Federal Government, as well as being denied their right to speedy consideration of their complaints and adjudications; and some Federal employees may be too eager to reject complaints of discrimination, harassment, and reprisal. The equal employment opportunity program as administered throughout the Federal Government may constitute the perpetration of a fraud upon persons being discriminated against, harassed, and who suffer reprisal.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**



- ◆ 1976: Federal Government Compliance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- ◆ 1977: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

## Civil Rights Enforcement

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls on President Carter to assert strong leadership in the struggle for equal opportunity and to appoint a member of his immediate staff as a person responsible directly to the President, whose sole responsibility would be to coordinate civil rights enforcement within the Federal Government and to assure that all agencies of the government fulfill their obligations under law. The NAACP should encourage the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to retain the individual complaint mechanism introduced in 1976.*

### BACKGROUND:

The civil rights movement, through the leadership of the NAACP, has secured the passage of much of the legislation needed to guarantee equal rights for all. Such legislation is not being adequately enforced, due to lack of leadership at the top, lack of coordination and outright opposition by many bureaucrats. It is hypocritical for officials of the United States to talk of human rights in other countries while failing to protect such rights at home

In 1976, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare's attempts to stop investigating individual complaints of racial and sex discrimination have been temporarily aborted as a result of effective protests by civil rights advocates. The Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare is encouraging citizen participation in developing a workable complaint resolution process by forming specific questions for public debate prior to issuance of a proposed regulation.

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 1976: Civil Rights Enforcement
- ◆ 1977: Civil Rights Enforcement

## FBI Surveillance

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP regards the admission of FBI surveillance and the promise to end it as not enough and calls for assurances from both the Attorney General and the Director of the FBI to discipline those responsible persons still employed by the agency. Congress is urged to appoint an independent and impartial agency to investigate and recommend appropriate action, including, but not limited to, criminal prosecution against those who violated the rights of so many Americans whose loyalty has survived the test of time.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The recent disclosure that the FBI kept the NAACP and other civil rights organizations under surveillance for upwards of 25 years even though they found after the first year that the NAACP has a strong tendency to resist communist infiltration. Such action makes it clear that the agency has often been unable to apprehend those persons who consistently violate the civil rights of blacks and other minorities when its concentration has been directed towards the activities of the victim rather than the perpetrator. Construction of each of these moves points unmistakably to racist politics, reminiscent of the campaigns earlier waged by Richard M Nixon and George C. Wallace. One of the obvious effects of engaging in racist demagogic politics on the school desegregation issue has been to encourage resistance to court orders and to undermine the rule of law,

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1976: Basic Civil Rights

# **Violence Against Black Americans**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the United States Attorney General, the United States Civil Rights Commission and state and local law enforcement agencies to investigate the epidemic of violence against black citizens. The NAACP, requests a written response from the President of the United States and the Attorney General of the United States regarding their intentions to enforce "the equal protection of the laws" provision of the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution respective of the recent resurgence of racial violence against Black Americans and apprise the American public of the results of said investigations upon completion.*

*The NAACP calls on the Congress to enact legislation establishing a National Commission to investigate the resurgence of racism in our Nation. In the interim, the NAACP through its units, encourages the local, state, and national governments to implement the recommendations of the Kerner Commission.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

A primary reason for the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was the concern of decent-thinking Americans about the harassment, brutalizing and annihilation of black citizens. In recent months the nation (and in particular the cities of Boston and Pasadena) has experienced a return to the racially violent days of the Reconstruction Era. Acts of intimidation and harassment perpetrated against black citizens include threats of death to NAACP leaders, the symbolic lynching of a black minister, Ku Klux Klan-type cross burning and unprovoked brutal assaults committed upon innocent black citizens in Boston.

Racial incidents have been reported on several college campuses: i.e., the Citadel (SC), Howard Beach (WY), Tampa (FL), Forsyth County (GA), and Maryland; and, there is a growing insensitivity to and lack of tolerance for the plight of blacks and other minorities in this pluralistic society.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1976: Violence Against Black Americans
- ◆ 1987: Racism and Racial Violence
- ◆ 1988: Commission on Racially Motivated Violence

## Hate Groups

### BACKGROUND:

*The is in resolute opposition to such un-American, undemocratic organizations as the Ku Klux Klan, the American Nazi Party, and the so-called NAAWP. The Association has received complaints from its branches in every section of the country concerning the growing resurgence of racial and religious hate groups such as the KKK, Nazi Party, White Citizens Council and other such groups,*

### POLICY SUMMARY:

The NAACP vigorously opposes any group, policy or practice which advocates inequality or denies access to equality of opportunity for blacks and other minorities, and we will continue to fight against bigotry and terror as never before. All NAACP units will educate all people in their respective communities to the true nature of these groups and the resultant damages caused by their activities and ideologies. The NAACP opposes the use of public funds to publicize these groups.

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 1977: Resurgence of Hate Groups

## The Wilmington Ten

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls upon the Governor of North Carolina to grant a pardon to the defendants in the case of the Wilmington Ten and the Attorney General of the U.S. to conduct a full investigation of the case and to take such action as is warranted under Federal civil rights statutes. The Association's General Counsel is directed to support the efforts of the defendants to vindicate their rights*

### BACKGROUND:

The Wilmington Ten reveals that grave violations of due process of law have occurred in the trial of the defendants; and their efforts to gain redress in the courts of North Carolina have been unavailing.

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- 1977: The Wilmington Ten

## Racial Stereotypes

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges all its units to stress positive positions and programs for a more civil society for all, regardless of racial or ethnic background.*

*The NAACP urges politicians, government officials and the news media to stop promoting social conflict and unrest by racial profiling through the use of insulting and inflammatory name-calling which reinforces negative stereotypes of racial and ethnic groups.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Racial and ethnic groups in this country suffer from insulting and inflammatory name-calling based upon negative stereotypes. Some politicians, government officials and news media have participated in highly publicized incidents of insulting and inflammatory name-calling and racial profiling of African Americans, Arab Americans, Asian Americans and others while discussing war and other pre-emptive attacks on sovereign nations.

Additionally, nine hundred restaurants over this country now bear the name "Sambo" or "Jolly Tiger," and the public airways are have been used to carry racially offensive stereotypes in advertising by the ownership of this restaurant chain.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1978: Racial Stereotypes
- 2003: Condemning the Reinforcement of Negative Stereotypes

## The *Bakke* Decision

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP is directed to monitor and report to the General Counsel and/or the Director of Education Programs by October 1, 1978, on the admissions policies and programs of institutions of higher learning within their areas to insure that effective and meaningful affirmative action programs are preserved, where they now exist, and/or created where they do not. This information shall also be filed with the appropriate agencies of the government, HEW, Justice and EEOC, whom we here and now call upon to launch vigorous enforcement efforts.*

*The legal apparatus of the NAACP be immediately strengthened to meet any attempt by affirmative action foes to extend *Bakke* is into other areas, including employment, housing and voting rights. This shall include, with the highest priority, the filing of lawsuits, intervening in pending suits, and submitting "friend of the court" briefs to insure that the record of the tragic history and present effects of racial discrimination.*

*The United States is urged to deliver a nationwide address to dispel the public mood that the wrongs which have been inflicted upon black Americans over the past 300 years have been corrected, and to call upon Americans to exercise a high sense of decency to the end that the white majority, that has been advantaged by racial discrimination, will view remedial efforts as crucial to this nation's salvation.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

In the *Bakke* case, the Supreme Court has affirmed the long-held NAACP tenet that the attack on racial discrimination requires the use of racially-related remedial criteria; and the High Court has rejected the argument of those who contended that affirmative action programs and judicially, legislatively and administratively formulated remedies which use race-related criteria are constitutionally forbidden. Attempts have been made to create a national psychological climate which would encourage continued attacks on affirmative action programs across the board,

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1978: Resolution on the Bakke Decision
- Cross-reference, Affirmative Action

## **Jubilee Day**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon its units to set aside January 1 as "Jubilee Day"-a day for reflection, rededication and celebration of our heritage and further calls upon all blacks to join the NAACP in this annual event. Parents should talk with their children on Jubilee Day about the history of their own families and of black freedom fighters. Black pastors should promote Jubilee Day and contribute personally and collectively by holding special services linking the civil rights struggle, the NAACP's role, and the mission of religion to the vitality of family life, and at such services special collections be taken up for the benefit of civil rights,*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Many of our people, especially our youth, are unaware of their rich cultural heritage, including the magnanimous contributions and arduous tribulations of their families and ancestors; and this lack of knowledge contributes to family disintegration and diminution of the awareness of the struggle and role of blacks in overcoming adversity and racism at large, with much personal sacrifice.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1979: Jubilee Day

## **Ku Klux Klan**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Units of the NAACP units should be educated about the dangers of the Klan and other hate-generating organizations and report and monitor and on the activities of the Klan in their localities.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Ku Klux Klan, the American Nazi Party and other terrorist organizations have increased their activities, both numerically and geographically and Federal law is inadequate to deal with their commission of murder, assault and other crimes. The NAACP calls upon Congress enact legislation to outlaw the terrorist acts of these organizations.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1980: Ku Klux Klan

## **Community Action Agencies**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls for a continuation of the Community Services Administration at an adequate level of funding.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Community Action Agencies, funded through the Federal Community Services Administration, are support mechanisms for the economically disadvantaged. The elimination of the CSA will have a serious negative impact on the unemployed, those on fixed income, the poor, black and other minorities

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1981: Community Action Agencies

## **Legal Services Corporation**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP asserts the need for the Legal Services Corporation and calls upon the U.S. Congress to reauthorize it at a funding level that will guarantee legal services in civil action, including class action suits, for those persons financially unable to afford private counsel.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Legal Services Corporation is seeking reauthorization from Congress in order to receive funds for the delivery of legal services to those who cannot afford adequate legal counsel in civil cases. There is a need to provide equal access to the system of justice in our nation for individuals who seek redress of grievances, including class action suits.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1981: Legal Services Corporation

## **Tennessee Valley Authority**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Convention calls upon the National Office's Legal Department and Washington Bureau to investigate charges of racially discriminatory practices by the Tennessee Valley authority and take appropriate and necessary legal and/or legislative actions to remedy any violations of law.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

There have been repeated allegations of racially discriminatory practices by the Tennessee Valley authority, including the misapplication and operation of Section 3 of the Tennessee Valley Authority Act of Congress, dated May 18, 1933, jeopardizing the jobs of black employees and managers.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1981: Tennessee Valley Authority

## **Boston Convention, 1982**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The Mayor of Boston, City Council, Governor of the State of Massachusetts, citizens of Boston and Massachusetts and the Boston NAACP Branch establish a broad Citizens Committee representing a cross-section of the different communities for the purpose of protecting the civil rights and liberties of all citizens, particularly Boston's black citizenry who have been the victims of many of these unwarranted assaults.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Mayor of Boston has acknowledged that the safety of black citizens and delegates to the 1982 Boston Convention, cannot be totally assured.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1982: Boston, Massachusetts

## Civil Rights Whistle Blowers

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Congress has passed legislation protecting the rights of citizens who report the violation of property rights; i.e., whistle blowing, which protects individuals who report violations of laws and regulations pertaining to contracts, resources, environmental issues, quality control, and related matters. The NAACP urges the Congress to enact legislation that will protect and hold harmless those citizens who report violations of civil rights and civil rights laws.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1987: Protection of Civil Rights Whistle Blowers

## The Making of America Publication

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The California Bicentennial commission, a commission created by the State Legislature to honor the 200th birthday of the U.S. Constitution, relied on private funding to underwrite its cost of doing business and, as a fundraiser, the Commission approved the sale of The Making of America. The NAACP considers this document a racially biased publication on the history of America.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1987: The Making of America Publication

## Blacks in Professional Sports

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office of the NAACP should target professional sports organizations for application of Fair Share agreements.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Numerous black professional athletes have excelled and become stars in basketball, baseball, football, and other professional sports and uniquely serve as role models for other blacks to excel in an activity. Few black professional athletes or non-athletes are in team managerial and administrative positions; and it is perceived among most team owners and managers that blacks do not aspire to, and/or do not have the qualifications



for, team managerial and administrative positions. This perception is tantamount to racial stereotyping and results in racial discrimination against blacks in searches for and selection of team managers and administrators.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1987: Blacks in Professional Sports

## **Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP should monitor the application of Rule 11; and take such legal or other action as may be necessary and appropriate to repeal Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The NAACP should develop and distribute information for the civil rights bar to aid and assist said bar members on how to avoid the pitfalls of Rule 11, while we continue to work for the repeal of Rule 11.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1988: The Repeal of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure

## **1990 Census**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*All units of the NAACP should work to enhance the overall political empowerment of black people. The NAACP embraces the concept of single member election districts and calls upon all of its units to guard against racial gerrymandering and Voting Rights Act violations during the redistricting process and work toward the elimination of the same.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1991: Reapportionment and Redistricting

## **Reparations**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP should bring to the attention of the United States Government the obligation on the part of this nation to acknowledge its debt to the African-American slaves, and the descendants of slaves. The NAACP supports the bill by congressman John Conyers of the State of Michigan to create a Congressional Commission to make reparation proposals to direct descendants of African slaves. NAACP units are asked to contact their*

*representatives, and the National Office is directed to contact the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, to request timely hearings.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

In the United States, a nation forged in a revolutionary struggle for inalienable human rights, natives of Africa were torn by force until the year 1808 from their homeland and subjected to the barbarities of institutionalized slavery. In the post-revolutionary United States, slavery was maintained by governmental fiat, with violence, depriving African-Americans of freedom of association, privacy, life, liberty, property and due process of law in complete abdication of the spirit and letter of the Bill of Rights from its inception and ratification to the enactment and ratification of the Anti-slavery Amendment of 1865.

The dehumanization of African-Americans began by constitutionally relegating his or her status to three-fifths (3/5) of a white man which continued even after the passage of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1868, in the form of local Jim Crow laws and public policies across America well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century imposing lasting political, economic, and cultural harm on generations of African-Americans, persisting to the present day.

The United States Government and various states therein have seen fit to take reparative steps for the wounds that they have caused by their bigoted actions, i.e., toward Native Americans and the American of Japanese heritage. The United States Government has acknowledged the cruelty, the prejudice and arrogance, if not the racial hatred, of their acts to confine Japanese Americans to concentration camps during World War II. Said acknowledgment resulted in an agreement to compensate each survivor to the sum of twenty thousand dollars each.

African-Americans suffered, as did Native Americans and Japanese-Americans, from broken promises, broken contracts, abandonment of moral justice, deprivation of land, of life, of freedom, of property. Further, African-Americans labored in the chains of slavery on the farmlands, highways and byways of this nation, and, thus, contributed fruitfully toward the growth and development of this nation.

A Commission to Study Reparations Proposals for African Americans has been proposed, and has languished in committee since 1989. Its purpose is to acknowledge the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to examine the institution of slavery, subsequent *de jure* and *de facto* racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact on these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1991: Resolution for the United States Government to Consider Reparations for African-Americans
- ◆ 1993: Reparations (The Conyers Bill)
- ◆ 1997: Reparations (H.R. 40) (Reaffirming the 1993 Resolution)
- ◆ 2003: Reparations for Unpaid Labor Rendered by Enslaved Persons of African Descent
- ◆ 2003: U.S. Government to Consider Reparations to African Americans (Reaffirming the 1991 Resolution)

## "Indian" Sports Team Mascots

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP actively supports the American Indian movement in its effort to force sports teams to discontinue the use of "Indian" team names, mascots, and other imagery that stereotype and caricature the sacred rituals and culture of Native Americans.*

*The NAACP should use its influence and resources to bring to the attention of the nation, and black athletes in particular, the tremendous negative impact that such demeaning symbolism can have on other peoples of color.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1992: "Indian Sports Team Mascots and Names"

## Transracial Adoption

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*If there are black families available and suitable under the criteria of advancing the "best interest of the child", black children should be placed with such black families. If black families are not available for placement of black children, transracial adoption ought to be pursued as a viable and preferred alternative to keeping such children in foster homes.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1992: Transracial Adoption

## Church Fires

*The NAACP will create a Church Rebuilding Fund to receive funds for the rebuilding of African American churches destroyed or damaged by arson fires.*

*The NAACP will establish a temporary church fire hot line staffed by a part time worker in the Southeast Regional Office to assist the Regional Director with handling the various calls and contacts regarding the Association's work on the church arsons.*

*NAACP units are directed to monitor their communities for any suspicious church fires and report such fires to the NAACP Church Fires Task Force and to local and federal law enforcement officials.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 1996: Emergency Resolution: Church Fires

## Condemnation of the “Good Old Boy Roundup”

*The NAACP condemns the “Good Old Boy Roundup” as being unprofessional, racist and serving no useful purpose.*

*The NAACP requests that each NAACP unit in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia ask their respective law enforcement agencies to conduct an internal investigation as to whether members of their staff attended this roundup and provide a list of the names of each attendee.*

*The executives and police chiefs of Fairfax, VA, Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties in Maryland and the District of Columbia will be provided with a copy of this resolution requesting an expeditious response.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- 1996: Racism: Condemnation of the “Good Old Boy Roundup

## Census 2000

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP endorses the Census Bureau's goal of a complete and accurate Census 2000, especially in those areas of the country where African Americans and others have been undercounted in past censuses, and will support Census 2000 efforts.*

*The National NAACP will enter into a partnership agreement with the Census Bureau and use its considerable influence and position to urge its local branches, state and local area conferences, and youth chapters to do the same in support of Census 2000 efforts.*

*The NAACP through its affiliate branches will assist in the recruitment program of the Census Bureau by referring good potential candidates for employment for the temporary jobs that will be available throughout the nation.*

### BACKGROUND:

Census data are used to determine the allocation of billions of dollars to federal, state, and local governments and help the nation to measure levels of poverty, unemployment, housing, and education. Furthermore, Census 2000 will create over 300,000 new temporary job opportunities which require persons with a good work ethic and determination.

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- 1997: Miscellaneous: Census 2000

- ◆ 1998: Census 2000

## Terrorist/Hate Group Activity

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP requests that airport security and employee security measures be increased to prevent terrorist activity by hate group members who may be employed in various capacities by airlines and airline vendors that have accessibility to aircraft and airport facilities.*

*The NAACP advocates for the utilization of the Hate Crime Reporting Act to address law enforcement data collection and reporting of hate crimes at all levels (federal, regional, state and local). The NAACP advocates the prosecution of these hate crimes to the fullest extent of the law.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 1998: Terrorist / Hate Group Activity

## Support for Jasper, Texas

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP pledges to support fundraising efforts to revitalize the Lone Star Community Center in Jasper, Texas. The NAACP supports efforts to rename the Lone Star Community Center the James Byrd Community Center for Racial Healing, dedicated to promoting civil rights, social justice, education, cultural awareness and economic empowerment. The NAACP requests that the United States Attorney General appoint a racially and geographically diverse Task Force to investigate, monitor and take appropriate action against Hate Crimes committed by prisoners or former prisoners of penal institutions who have past or current allegiances to white supremacist organizations.*

*The NAACP requests that the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights investigate fully whether there is a shared responsibility for the James Byrd, Jr., murder beyond the three suspects who have been charged criminally, and take the necessary criminal or civil action against individuals or groups that aided, assisted or encouraged the persons who committed the crime to do so.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 1998: Support for Jasper, Texas

## Seminole Freedmen

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP fully supports the efforts of the Seminole Freedmen to receive the justice and the recognition of their heritage to which they are entitled, through full access to the Judgment Fund Benefits as members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1998: Seminole Freedmen (Seminoles of African Descent)

### **NAACP's Participation in the United Nations World Conference Against Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance**

*The NAACP will take all necessary steps to actively participate in the U.N. World Conference on Racism, August 31-September 7, 2001 by:*

- *Obtaining status with the United Nations as a Certified Non-Governmental Organization with Consultative status so that the NAACP will be eligible to participate fully at the World Conference;*
- *Urging that the U.S. Government conform federal, state and local law with recognized international human rights standards;*
- *Demanding that the U.S. State Department submit the required reports to the U.N. in compliance with U.S., obligations under CERD.*
- *Urging President Clinton to take a leadership role now in preparing for the World Conference on Racism by designating funding, rescinding the U.S. reservations to CERD and granting the right to U.S. citizens to enforce CERD in U.S. courts;*
- *Calling upon all NAACP units to contact their Members of Congress and the U.S. Senate to request that they earmark funding for U.S. participation in the World Conference and by designating an appropriate congressional delegation to participate in the World Conference;*
- *Calling upon all NAACP units to educate their local communities on the significance of the World Conference on Racism by holding public forums.*
- *Providing NAACP representation at the 2001 World Conference with documentation of the continuing effects of racism and the work of the NAACP to combat it.*

*The NAACP will take all necessary steps, including calling upon all units, members, the Chairman and President/CEO to immediately write President Bush and Secretary of State Powell, asking that the United States actively participate in this historic World Conference. The NAACP urges the U.S. to take immediate action to join the growing international movement to affirm the right of the descendants of the victims of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade to just and fair compensatory measures for the suffering and the uncompensated labor of the 400 years they and their ancestors have endured.*

*The NAACP actively demands that the following three issues be addressed at the United Nations Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Durban, South Africa, August 31 to September 7, 2001:*

- *The declaration of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade as a Crime against Humanity;*
- *The establishment of “Reparations” for the descendants of the victims of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery.*
- *The acknowledgment of the economic roots of racism.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 2000: NAACP’s Participation in the United Nations World Conference Against Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance
- ◆ 2001: United Nations World Conference, Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, Reparations

## **Confederate Battle Flag and Emblem**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its condemnation, as expressed in its 1999 Resolution, of the confederate battle flag or the confederate battle emblem being flown over, displayed in or on any public site or space, building, or any emblem, flag standard or as part of any public communication. All units of the NAACP shall urge all corporations of good conscience to remove flags bearing the confederate battle emblem from their business property.*

*The NAACP calls upon the U.S. Department of Justice to remove any and all confederate flags from and on public property for being a treasonous act within this jurisdiction.*

*The NAACP reaffirms its condemnation of the Confederate Battle Flag being flown over the South Carolina State Capitol and displayed within the South Carolina House and Senate Chambers, and renews its call for the removal and relocation of the Confederate Battle Flag to a place of historical rather than sovereign context. The NAACP urges all families planning reunions and other groups, businesses, and corporation to consider locations outside of the State as reunion or meeting sites until such time that the Confederate Battle Flag is removed from positions of sovereignty in the State of South Carolina.*

*The NAACP shall apply these economic sanctions against the State of South Carolina as well as any further measures as appropriate, commencing January 1, 2000, until such time that the Confederate Battle Flag is no longer displayed in positions of sovereignty in the State of South Carolina. The NAACP joins with those Mississippians adamantly opposing the validation of the April 17, 2001 referendum vote retaining the confederate flag.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Confederate States of America came into being by way of secession from the United States of America out of a desire to defend the right of individual states to maintain an economic system based on slave labor.

The Confederate Battle Flag, Confederate Flag and Emblem have been embraced as the primary symbols for the numerous modern-day groups

advocating white supremacy.

The Confederate Battle Flag, Confederate Flag and Emblem in its present position of display makes a statement of public policy that continues to be an affront to the sensibilities and dignity of a majority of Americans.

Mississippians and Confederate preservationists rallied the Mississippi State Flag Commission, the Governor and the Legislature to “*let the people decide*” whether to retain the current divisive and racially denigrating State Flag of 1894 or to replace it with a flag more sensitive to all cultural heritages of its citizenry. The State Flag Vote Referendum passed by 64% to 36% in favor of retaining the tyrannical confederate symbol of slavery and white supremacy incorporated into the state’s flag. These numbers were almost precisely down racial lines and reasserted Mississippi’s heinous reputation as the most racist state in the nation.

The dollars spent on family reunions, tourism, conventions and meetings by African Americans, other people of conscience and corporate entities serve to enrich the State of South Carolina, the "Mother State of Secession," which continues to fly the banner of secession.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1999: Confederate Battle Flag
- ◆ 1999: Economic Sanctions for South Carolina
- ◆ 2000: Confederate Battle Flag and Emblem (Reaffirming 1999 Resolution)
- ◆ 2000: Reaffirming Economic Sanctions for South Carolina
- ◆ 2001: Resolution of Continued Support for a New Flag for the State of Mississippi
- ◆ 2001: Reaffirming the 2000 Resolution on the Confederate Battle Flag and the Confederate Battle Emblem
- ◆ 2001: Reaffirming Economic Sanctions for South Carolina

## **Harpers Ferry, West Virginia**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the nomination of Murphy Farm and landscape surrounding Harpers Ferry to the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s list of eleven most endangered historical resources. The NAACP urges Congress to appropriate sufficient funding to acquire the Murphy Farm and other lands making up the cultural landscape surrounding Harpers Ferry and pass legislation allowing such lands to be administered as part of the U.S. Department of Interior’s Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, West Virginia.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**



- ◆ 2001: Resolution to Save Historical Area in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

## Harriett Tubman National Park

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP endorses the creation of the Harriet Tubman National Park. The NAACP will recommend to the United States Congress and the Department of the Interior the creation of the Harriet Tubman National Park.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 2002: Endorsement of the Creation of the Harriett Tubman National Park

## Recommitment to Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP will rededicate its resources, efforts and membership to unite the forces of these organizations. The NAACP shall support all efforts of the Leadership Conference.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 2002: Recommitment to Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

## Fort Huachuca, Arizona Building 66050, AKA “Colored Officers’ Club” or the “Mountain View Officers’ Club”

*The NAACP vigorously opposes the destruction of Building 66050 and endorses its inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a National Historic Site.*

*The NAACP will use its considerable influence to recommend to the United States Congress that Building 66050 be included in the NRHP and further recommends that it be restored and preserved as a National Historic Site.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 2003: Endorsement of the Inclusion of Fort Huachuca, Arizona Building 66050, AKA “Colored Officers’ Club” or the “Mountain View Officers’ Club” in the National Record of Historic Places (NRHP)

## NAACP Support for Native American Indians and the Connecticut Golden Hill Paugussetts

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP will continue to support federal recognition for Native American tribes in general, and the Golden Hill Paugussetts' federal recognition in particular, and will vigorously oppose, through legislation, public rallies and court action, any and all attempts to discriminate against Native Americans in the federal recognition process.*

*The NAACP National Convention reaffirm its support of the federal recognition process for the Native Americans given at the 1993 Convention.*

*All NAACP branches and state conferences work with Native American tribes as they seek federal recognition through administrative and legal processes.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 2003: NAACP Support for Native American Indians and the Connecticut Golden Hill Paugussetts

## Rebirth of Freedom Commemorative Memorial Marker

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP endorses the placement of a commemorative memorial to Black Veterans on the grounds of Soldiers Home District of the Veterans Administration on 8 July 2005, in collaboration with the Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center, the Milwaukee NAACP Branch, National Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS), and a diverse coalition of Milwaukeeans and community organizations.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 2005: Rebirth of Freedom Commemorative Memorial Marker

## Denouncing Racist Mexican Stamps

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls on the Mexican Government to immediately cease and desist from printing and distributing any further stamps. The NAACP denounces the Mexican stamp and any other remnants of degrading images of buffoonery against African Americans or any other minority groups. The NAACP will encourage Latino and Hispanic groups to encourage Mexican Government officials to use discretion and sensitivity in their official business.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 2005: Denouncing Racist Mexican Stamps

## Schaghticoke and Eastern Pequot Tribal Nations

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will continue to support all legitimate claims for Native American federal recognition in general including the Schaghticoke and Eastern Pequot's Tribal Nations. The NAACP will vigorously oppose, through legislation, public rallies and court action, any and all attempts to discriminate against Native Americans in the federal recognition process.*

*The NAACP reaffirms its support of the federal recognition for Native Americans given at the 1993 and 2003 Conventions and urge the State of Connecticut to honor the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation's and the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation's sovereignty and federal recognition.*

*All NAACP units should continue to work with Native American tribes as they seek federal recognition through administrative and legal processes.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 2005: NAACP Resolution Supporting Continued Sovereignty and Federal Recognition of the Schaghticoke and Eastern Pequot Tribal Nations

## The Niagara Movement of 1905

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP encourages all units of the Association to acknowledge and support the Centennial Commemoration Celebrations of the Niagara Movement.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2006: Centennial Commemoration of the Niagara Movement of 1905

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Criminal Justice

## Juvenile Offenders

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Necessary measures must be taken to guarantee equal protection under the law. The NAACP encourages its branches and youth councils to monitor the justice systems and community agents to determine if juvenile offenders are primarily those who have dropped out due to learning, health, social, or psychiatric problems. The NAACP calls for an extension of Pupil Personal Incentive-type educational programs under the provisions of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to eliminate the high rate of dropouts in urban and rural districts.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1976: Status Offenders

## Governmentally-Funded Programs

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its position on Revenue Sharing, Community Development Block Grants and other governmentally-funded programs. We call on all NAACP units to more actively monitor these programs and to file complaints with local human rights agencies, HUD, other Federal agencies, and the NAACP National Office. We urge all units of the NAACP to become familiar with the "A-95 Review Process," which allows organizations interested in furthering the implementation of civil rights laws to review all applications for Federal financial assistance prior to the funding of such programs.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1976: Governmentally-Funded Programs

## Police Brutality

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the U.S. Attorney General and the Justice Department to convene the U.S. Grand Juries to investigate police killing of blacks and other minorities. The NAACP Legal department must move forthwith to obtain commitments from the Attorney General, and the Grand Juries are to be convened in regions of the NAACP where leadership has already made such petitions.*

*The NAACP calls a national public hearing on police abuse and further demands that the Attorney General of the United States use the investigative powers of the Justice Department to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of police abuse in this country.*

*The NAACP urges all units to use the NAACP's police violence publication in their efforts to oppose and curb police violence and abuse. NAACP Branches must actively publicize these shameful incidents via widespread media and press conferences.*

*Every police department must be required to establish a program of psychological profiling, testing and training in areas of cultural diversity and violence control. Police departments must also develop and implement a time table and goals for increasing the number of blacks, females and minorities on their forces.*

*Chiefs of Police will be held accountable to elected public officials who will have responsibility to hire and fire Chiefs of Police who are in violation of accountability resulting from police brutality.*

*The NAACP requests in every jurisdiction establishment of Citizen Police Review Commissions with said commissions having powers, duties and responsibilities comparable to other human relations commissions already existing in some jurisdictions, and that all units take an active role in addressing this issue. Each unit of the NAACP must immediately establish a regular program or communication with local police departments to monitor their operations, to address our concerns and to provide community input into their police operations;*

*The Staten Island Branch of the NAACP will urge the Mayor and the members of the City Council to institute appropriate action leading to a change in the make-up of the Police Department's Civilian Complaint Review Board to permit majority representation that is truly "civilian" rather than police oriented.*

*NAACP Branches are directed to use their Legal Redress Committees to become an advocate for innocent citizens who report instances of police misconduct and the use of excessive force. The NAACP National Office will pursue litigation when necessary to eradicate all forms of police misconduct and excessive force.*

*The NAACP advocates the withholding of federal funding to comply with these requirements set forth herein.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

In many communities, the actions and behavior of the staff of the Police Departments, Sheriff Offices and law enforcement agencies at all levels are increasingly abusive and violative of the civil rights and physical well-being of citizens. The NAACP has throughout its history abhorred police brutality and at the same time fought for the equal protection of all minorities including those who have found themselves caught up in the web of the criminal justice system. The NAACP is strongly committed to a criminal justice system that is fair, equitable and dispenses justice without regard to race, sex, residency or socio-economic status.

The NAACP is strongly opposed to crime and predatory criminals. The personal safety of citizens from physical and verbal abuse from law enforcement officials is just as important as the containment of crime and criminals. Far too many deaths of blacks have occurred under curious and questionable conditions while they are incarcerated in jails.

The NAACP finds the acquittal of four white police officers for the savage beating of Rodney King in Los Angeles to be a grave miscarriage of justice.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1978: Police Brutality
- ◆ 1979: Police Brutality (Reaffirming 1978 Resolution)
- ◆ 1983: Police Brutality
- ◆ 1991: Police Brutality
- ◆ 1992: Police Brutality
- ◆ 1992: Los Angeles Disorders
- ◆ 1996: Excessive Force by Law Enforcement Officers and Police Departments

## Prosecution of Police Brutality

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP must transmit their concern for redress of grievances of black citizens who have been needlessly brutalized at the hands of law enforcement officials to the President, particularly the U.S. Attorney General, the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.*

*The NAACP calls on the Attorney General to direct the U.S. Attorney, for various districts, to give high priority to cases for prosecution in which it appear; that violations of civil rights have occurred.*

*The Attorney General is requested to establish a special strike force for civil rights violations to oversee the investigation and prosecution of these criminal acts on the part of police and corrections officers.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1978: Prosecution of Police and Correction Officers for Criminal Acts

## Mandatory Sentencing

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP, through relevant departments, must study the impact of mandatory sentencing on defendants in state and federal criminal justice proceedings. The NAACP calls upon each state conference through their local units to begin the process of monitoring legislation which deals with mandatory sentences and legislation that makes certain behaviors a crime; and to monitor the arrest, prosecution, and sentencing of African*

*Americans to determine whether there is disparate treatment based upon race. The NAACP deplores decisions, policies and practices which, at all levels of the criminal justice system by their effect, show racial and class bias.*

*We oppose the introduction of mandated, fixed sentences which would by design or effect abolish altogether, rather than reform, the parole system. The state conferences through their local units must lobby against legislation that would require mandatory sentences if such legislation may carry a potential adverse effect upon the number of African Americans that may be prosecuted for that type of crime. The NAACP proposes a review of the sentencing of prisoners presently incarcerated exonerating those suffering under discriminatory sentencing.*

*In situations where units have determined that certain Judges issue sentences to African Americans which appear to be out of line, local branches must provide this information to the public and actively work against the reelection or appointment of such judges.*

*State conferences must keep a record of disparate treatment and sentencing and report same in a timely manner to the National Office for action.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP are mindful that at virtually every stage of the criminal process, there are racial disparities, gross inequities and patent injustices in terms of arrest, arraignments, prosecutorial discretion to charge, overcharge, or not prosecute at all, the money bail system, unequal access to competent counsel, and the conditions of incarceration before trial that encourage plea bargaining irrespective of guilt or innocence, and the deplorable conditions of most prisons to which black and poor people are sent.

There is legislation being considered by the Congress and the legislatures of the several states that would eliminate judicial discretion in sentencing and which would also prescribe and fix precise and certain punishment and incarceration for persons convicted of certain crimes, thereby eliminating the system of parole.

Institution of fixed sentences will have the effect of increasing prison terms and represents a major shift in public policy from a system ostensibly based on mercy and justice to a system premised primarily on revenge.

Mandatory sentences are opposed by many judges, criminologists, and prison administrators. Mandatory sentences tend to eliminate judicial discretion in sentencing which often works to the detriment of minority defendants. Discretion at the sentencing level may be the only part of the criminal process that can soften any prior injustice toward a convicted person, and the sentencing procedure is usually the only forum for the defendant to make arguments in the interest of justice. The criminal code reforms affecting sentencing do not promise to close the loopholes that make it possible for the lenient treatment of wealthy and privileged defendants.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Disparate Sentencing
- ◆ 1992: Study of Mandatory Sentences
- ◆ 1993: Disparate Treatment and Impact in Certain Criminal Justice Proceedings



- 1997: African American Prison Population (Reaffirming the 1989 Resolution regarding Blacks in Prison)

## Juvenile Justice

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP must undertake measures to insure that prevention and rehabilitation are vital components of any new juvenile justice system programs established. State legislation must be enacted to bring more uniformity to the laws governing juveniles.*

*The NAACP supports full due process and other institutional safeguards in all proceedings involving youthful offenders. The NAACP is directed to monitor the juvenile justice system to ensure that the many programs for corrective behaviors are liberally applied to black youth and that punishment is commensurate with the crime.*

*NAACP units are called upon to seek humane treatment and conditions for incarcerated young people and the employment of trained justice system personnel. The NAACP units are directed to find ways to help youth return to free society and adjust and make the necessary adjustments to remain free and productive to both themselves and to society.*

*The National Office is directed to prepare for wide distribution a pamphlet and other materials setting forth the basic legal rights of juveniles. The local branches are directed to provide support in the form of clinics and workshops to acquaint our membership with the legal rights of juveniles.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Juvenile delinquency is an ever increasing concern in the community. In an effort to reduce crimes committed by youngsters under the age of legal responsibility, states are considering enacting laws that would lower the age of legal responsibility for criminal acts and which would introduce juveniles into the criminal process with adult offenders, and treat them as adults convicted of similar crimes, including lengthy imprisonment and perhaps even the infliction of capital punishment.

Most jurisdictions consider a child between the age of 7 and 12 incapable of committing a crime, unless it can be shown that the child had the mental capacity to know the nature of the act he committed and to know that his act was wrong. Legislators are proposing new and additional measure to deal with the increase in violent crimes committed by juveniles. There is an alarming national focus to make the cornerstone of these proposals criteria which would require that teenagers 14 to 17 be tried as adults on charges of murder, rape and sodomy. In this drive to find easy solutions to this complicated situation, it appears that the only solution being considered is incarceration.

There is an inconsistency of laws governing juvenile offenders between municipalities and the definition of juvenile delinquency within the same state. Many black youths are affected by the laws governing criminal offense and are unaware of their rights under the law. The facilities which house juvenile offenders often operate under inhumane conditions and have a lack of properly trained personnel.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1978: Youth Work: Juvenile Justice

- ◆ 1979: Youth Work: Juvenile Crime
- ◆ 1980: Youth Work: Legal Rights of Juveniles
- ◆ 1984: Youth Work: Monitoring the Juvenile Justice Systems of America
- ◆ 1996: Juvenile Justice

## The “NAACP” Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We withdraw and revoke permission previously granted to the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund for the use of the initials "NAACP" in its name, publications, publicity, activities and solicitations.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Emergency Resolution Calling for the Withdrawal and Revocation of Permission to Use the "NAACP" Initials by the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc

## Miami

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports amnesty or pardons for persons charged with curfew violations; who were routinely engaged in normal and legitimate activities.*

*The National NAACP urges all of its members, units and supporters to make a special donation to the Emergency Relief Fund to assist in the alleviation of human suffering in the Miami area.*

*The National Executive Director will appoint a Commission, to study, to make a report, and to continue to monitor the criminal justice system in the Miami area and to file a separate report regarding the restoration of the "death penalty" in Florida.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Miami

## Indiscriminate Use of Firearms by Police

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the implementation of uniform laws outlining clear standards for the use of firearms including a reporting system documenting discharge of a police firearm resulting in a loss of life or bodily harm with a sanction or a penalty for any indiscriminate use of such firearms; and support the repeal of existing "fleeing felon" laws.*

*The NAACP urges the Attorney General of the U S to monitor and investigate all reports of indiscriminate use of firearms by police.*

*The National Office of the NAACP will establish a special division to monitor any instances of police brutality.*

*The NAACP seeks legislation that will establish Federal laws that render illegal the use of deadly force unless a life is endangered.*

*In seeking relief from the indiscriminate use of firearms, the NAACP calls for the full cooperation and influence of all three branches of government--the judicial, legislative and administrative--to make it a reality.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1980: Indiscriminate Use of Firearms by Police

## **Black-on-Black Crime**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon black communities' law enforcement agencies and courts of law to recognize that crimes committed by blacks, against blacks, are as unlawful, are as humanly devastating, and are as undesirable in our black communities as crimes committed by blacks upon whites, or any group.*

*Said agencies and courts must institute a single justice system that will no longer allow an indifferent reaction to crimes visited upon blacks by blacks.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1980: Black-on-Black Crime

## **Atlanta Children**

*The NAACP grieves the slain and missing children of Atlanta and offers its heartfelt and sincere sympathy to their families and friends.*

*The NAACP commends the President for his quick response to the Atlanta tragedy by the assignment of additional Federal prosecutors and investigators, and calls upon him to reconsider the recent decision to reduce the size of this Federal commitment, since there is no evidence that all, or even most, or the murders have been resolved by the solitary arrest of one suspect, particularly under circumstances where the ability to convict this suspect may have been compromised by excessive pre-trial publicity and conflict between the various law enforcement organizations operating in the Atlanta area.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1981: Emergency Resolution: Atlanta Children

## **Police Choke Holds**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes the use of the choke hold by law enforcement personnel and considers its use as deadly force. It furthermore calls upon the ranking law enforcement officials of the nation to prohibit its use.*

*The NAACP calls upon its branches (in consultation with the Association's General Counsel) to consider immediate court action to prohibit its use.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1983: Use of Choke Holds by Police

## **Law Enforcement Review Board**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon Congress to create Federal Law Enforcement Review Boards attached to each circuit court region.*

*These Federal Law Enforcement Review Boards are to be comprised of civilians, including former law enforcement officials and others. These Federal Law Enforcement Review Boards must have adequate investigative staffs. The racial and sexual composition of such review board(s) must reflect adequate representation of members with distinguished reputations in the black community.*

*When people die in the custody of law enforcement officials, these Federal Law Enforcement Review Boards have authority to investigate, review facts, make findings and recommendations, and report their findings and recommendations to the Federal Grand Jury and others as necessary and appropriate. The NAACP calls upon Congress to require that the deaths of people in the custody of law enforcement officials be promptly reported to the Federal Law Enforcement Board in the appropriate circuit court region.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

## Prisoner Rehabilitation and Education

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will institute a special task force to develop a written plan of action whereby the larger membership of the organization could be constructively involved with programs and projects aimed at aiding and assisting black incarcerated individuals to become productive, participating citizens of America.*

*The NAACP supports a constructive effort to combat the increasing percentage of African-American males in the prison systems, including programs emphasizing personal values and holding each offender personally responsible for their individual actions.*

*The NAACP supports alternative programs to assist and promote educational opportunities for inmates and drug rehabilitation for both adult and juvenile offenders. The NAACP must pressure the correctional system to allocate funds for the purpose of educational rehabilitation for nonviolent adult and juvenile offenders. The NAACP calls for the institution of compulsory education through high school for those inmates who do not have a high school education. The NAACP will establish or restore higher education programs for persons incarcerated in correctional institutions. The NAACP units will support adequate funding for educational resources & tax incentives that promote volunteers and community participation in correctional facilities. The NAACP directs its units to urge Federal, state and local governments to adequately fund more vocational apprenticeship training programs throughout the American Penal System.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

An objective of the American Penal System is to rehabilitate those who are incarcerated.

African-American males constitute a high percentage of the inmate population in state and federal institutions. There are more African-American males incarcerated than are in colleges or universities. Badly needed state, local and federal funds are being diverted from social services and educational programs to prison budgets.

A large number of inmates are released to society without any employable skills and therefore re-engage in criminal activities which result in their re-incarceration. The U.S. Department of Labor has reported that where there are vocational apprenticeship training programs in prisons, these programs have been a successful factor in reducing the rate of recidivism.

Research reveals that incarcerated persons who do not hold high school diplomas stand a 60% greater chance of returning to prison, while those who earn an associates degree have only a 13.7% chance of re-incarceration and those who earn at least a bachelor's degree stand only a 5.6% risk of recidivism.

An aggressive higher education reform program supported by the NAACP will lower the rate of re-entry and re-offenders while heightening the quality of life of the total community.

The public must be made aware of the critical role that higher education can play in the rehabilitative and transformation process of those who are currently incarcerated or who were previously incarcerated.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1988: Prison (Criminal Justice System)
- 1988: Education: Educational Skills in Prison
- 1992: Intermediate Sanctions
- 2003: Education: Correctional Institution Higher Education Reform Initiative

## **African American Prison Population**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP is directed to study the severely disproportionate representation of African Americans in prison and recommend appropriate action to eliminate their occurrence.*

*The NAACP should make the American public, and particularly the black community, aware of these inequities so that all can take appropriate action to eliminate them*

*The NAACP will move with deliberate speed to have state and national government equalize the penalty for crack and cocaine offenses, and further that the NAACP propose a review of the sentencing of prisoners presently incarcerated exonerating those suffering under discriminatory sentencing.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

49% of the prison population is black, and blacks constitute only 12% of the national population. This disproportionate figure is partially reflective of discriminatorily-applied prosecutorial and police discretion and inadequate legal representation, both retained and court appointed.

The problem presents a serious threat to the progress of the black community.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1989: Health and Welfare: Blacks in Prison
- 1997: African American Prison Population (Reaffirming the 1989 Resolution regarding Blacks in Prison)

## **Assault Weapons**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP seeks to obtain legislation and laws by all units of government, local, state and federal to ban the sale and possession of assault weapons by private citizens of this country.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1989: Health and Welfare: Assault Weapons

## **Gun Control**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP encourages and supports gun control legislation calling for an adequate waiting period, thorough background search of the applicant, and related licensing by the appropriate authorities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1989: Health and Welfare: Gun Control

## **Condemnation of the Los Angeles Police Department**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National Office and units must undertake an in-depth investigation of these cruel and inhumane acts perpetrated upon Rodney King, publish and disseminate the results of this investigation, using this information to re-educate peace officers in the proper techniques for making an arrest. The NAACP will ensure the prosecution of the ruffians and their superiors charged with these acts.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1991: Condemnation of Los Angeles Police Department

## **Eradicating the Trafficking and Use of Controlled Drugs**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will move with deliberate speed to have state and national government equalize the penalty for crack and cocaine offenses.*

*Criminal penalties for the possession (not sale) of crack cocaine, cocaine and heroin must be decriminalized whereby convictions be non-felonies and addicts would be placed into rehabilitation centers and be provided with treatment.*

*The NAACP will assume a leadership role to convene a National Conference to address the impact of drugs on the black community; devise strategies combating drug trafficking, drug abuse, and other related issues; and the role of the NAACP and other black organizations in implementing these strategies.*

*NAACP local branches and State Conferences must take the leadership in planning and convening conferences in their local communities to address these issues at local and state levels.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The so-called drug war places emphasis on law enforcement rather than on education and rehabilitation and persecute minorities with glaringly higher rates of incarceration. There are more than six million hard-core illegal users in the U.S. today and many of them are lower-class drug users of crack-cocaine and heroin who are labeled criminal and sent to jail or prison with very little chance of therapy or rehabilitation; while the use of the powerful drug alcohol by middle-class addicts are labeled alcoholics and are given therapy.

African-Americans makeup 12 percent of the U.S. population and constitutes 41 percent of the arrests for drug violations; current drug policies incarcerate and demean people just for using drugs; oftentimes cocaine and heroin drug convictions result in felony convictions and incarceration, while more often than not, driving while intoxicated convictions are non-felony and generally carries no incarceration for first time offenders.

Drug addicts need drug programs so their addiction can be effectively treated. Drug-rehabilitation centers demonstrate proven methods for treating drug addicts. There is a shortage of long term drug rehabilitation facilities to treat drug users and currently drug treatment is only available for 15 percent of the nation's drug addicts. Alcohol consumption is legal, and alcoholics can be treated compassionately as sick people and there is no shortage of alcohol treatment centers for alcoholics. Decriminalization is not the legalization of hard drugs, including crack-cocaine and heroin, decriminalization is the removal of the most severe criminal penalties (felony convictions) for the possession and use of hard drugs, including crack-cocaine and heroin.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1992: Health and Welfare: Decriminalization of Drugs
- ◆ 1998: Miscellaneous: Eradication of the Trafficking and Use of Controlled Drugs

## **Re-establish Criminal Justice Department Consistency of Sentencing Guidelines**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office of the NAACP collect the data on the outcome of sentences as results of the use of sentencing guidelines to determine whether there should be continued use of said guidelines.*



*The NAACP call upon the U.S. Justice Department to study and work with the National Sentencing Commission and the NAACP in order to address such guidelines endeavoring to bring the sentencing practices and guidelines into harmony and into a realistic relationship to the seriousness of the crime.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1995: Consistency of Sentencing Guidelines

## **Re-establish Criminal Justice Department and Jubilee 2000 Amnesty**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will re-establish the Prison Program to address issues relating to the prison population; and that the National Office of the NAACP support the development of NAACP Prison and Parole Task Forces at the state and local levels to address and to seek remedies to the high rate of imprisonment of African-Americans, the poor, and other people of color; and that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People support the development of special Jubilee Year 2000 Amnesty Project by State Conferences and local branches which provide for the categorical and immediate release of certain unjustly confined prison inmates who may have been wrongly corrected or unduly sentenced and who pose no danger to society.*

*All state conferences and local branches of the NAACP are directed to take action consistent with the national policy to address the high incidence of the incarceration of blacks throughout America.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2000: Re-establish Criminal Justice Department and Jubilee 2000 Amnesty

## **Racial Profiling**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Attorney General and the Justice Department to investigate abuses of the Fourth Amendment prohibition against unwarranted stops, searches and seizures.*

*The NAACP will adopt a national strategy to combat racially targeted traffic stops, including but not limited to:*

- *Local and state letter writing, lobbying and petitioning campaigns in an effort to persuade U.S. Senators to support HR 118 and ensure its passage;*

- *Efforts by all NAACP units to provide training and education on the legal rights and responsibilities of African American motorists as well as advocacy for the establishment of state and local civilian review boards.*
- *Development of a nationwide database to track incidents of racially targeted traffic stops.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Scores of African Americans from all socio-economic backgrounds have experienced the humiliation of being stopped on the nation's roads for no other reason than the alleged traffic offense referred to as "Driving While Black". This practice of "profiling" African American motorists is a clear violation of the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution, as well as many state and federal laws. Compelling evidence of racial profiling of African American motorists has been documented in New Jersey, Maryland, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut.

National legislation (HR 118), which would begin to address this unjust practice, was unanimously passed by the U.S. House of Representatives and is currently stalled in the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: "Driving While Black": Racial Profiling of African American Motorists
- ◆ 2000: Calling Upon the Attorney General and the Justice Department to Investigate Abuse of Fourth Amendment Rights

# **African American Literature in Correctional Institutions**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes the lack of African American literature and cultural resources in correctional institutions nationally, and that the NAACP units will increase its efforts to render assistance to those housed in correctional institutions to promote fair, equitable, non-discriminatory policies with respect to African American literature, African American librarians, African American publications and African American cultural resources in a manner consistent with the demographics reflected in the correctional facilities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 2003: Civil Rights: NAACP Opposes the Screening Process which has Restricted Access to African American Literature in Correctional Institutions

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Economic Development

## Minority Enterprise Act of 1976

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*At the 67th Annual Convention of the NAACP went on record in support of this vitally needed legislation.*

The Washington Bureau of the NAACP is directed to lobby vigorously to insure the passage of this bill.

*The NAACP directs all branches of the Association to immediately commence an intensive lobbying effort with their congressional representatives to insure the passage of this bill during the present session of Congress.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Minority Enterprise Act of 1976, (HR 12741), sponsored by Congressman Parren J Mitchell, provides a vehicle to enable minority small business concerns to receive expanded assistance under the Small Business Act, provide standards for contracting and subcontracting by the Federal Government with small business concerns which should assure maximum opportunity for such minority concerns to receive U.S. contracts and establish a Commission on Federal Assistance to Minority Enterprise with the power to hold hearings and secure information from executive agencies and departments.

The participation of minority small business concerns in the commerce of our nation remains a hope with little expectation of fulfillment.

It is essential to the economic development of blacks that more of us become producers rather than consumers of goods and services produced by others.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Minority Enterprise Act

## Fast Food Franchises

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office, through the Board's Economic Development Committee, shall compile information regarding the availability of such franchises and the necessary qualifications and pitfalls involved in obtaining them.*

*This information regarding Fast Food Chains will be disseminated throughout the branches of the Association*

*The NAACP establishes a mechanism to provide counseling and technical assistance to individuals*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Few minority persons have obtained "fast food" franchises to reap the profits from such businesses although these chains enjoy wide patronage from minorities

The proliferation of so-called "fast food" chains such as McDonald's, Burger King and others is an indication of their economic success.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Fast Food Franchises

## **CETA**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls for a full, comprehensive investigation of local CETA programs by the United States Department of Labor and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The NAACP further calls upon local governmental agencies to cease and desist forthwith from administering CETA programs in a discriminatory fashion and from misapplying CETA funds by giving CETA placements to persons who are not eligible for participation therein.*

*NAACP branches, state conferences and youth councils will monitor the implementation of CETA programs in their localities to insure that these programs accomplish their intended purpose*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP condemns the action of those local officials, who have promulgated regulations regarding the implementation of CETA legislation where such local regulations have the effect of nullifying the intent of Congress when this bill was enacted,

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: CETA
- ◆ 1977: Labor and Industry: CETA

## **Utility Rates-Regulatory Commissions Membership**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges that all rate increases be limited to the actual cost incurred in securing fossil fuels and expenses associated with procuring such fuels.*

*The appointing authorities in the respective states are called upon to bring about a broader based representation of consumer-oriented representatives on the various commissions that regulate utility companies.*

*The NAACP directs its branches to take such actions as may be necessary to implement the purposes of this resolution*

*A moratorium must be placed upon any further rate increases*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Many utility companies are charging the consuming public rates far beyond increases in fuel energy costs and are making excessive profits

Utility shareholders are receiving increased dividends

Gas and electric consumers in many parts of the country pay exorbitant rates and great suffering is being experienced among the low-income and elderly

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Utility Rates-Regulatory Commissions Membership

## **Initiation of Consumer Education Programs**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will initiate consumer education programs through national, regional and state conference sponsorship of conferences and consumer advocacy training seminars to increase the awareness of the minority consumer regarding competitive products and values in the marketplace.*

*Such programs will be undertaken with the goal of improving the ability of blacks to become more demanding of higher quality and variety in merchandise and services and a more effective collective force for change.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Initiation of Consumer Education Programs

## Consumer Protection Agency

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP endorses the pending Administration-supported bill-H R 6808-now being considered by Congress*

*The NAACP urges Congress to take prompt action on this bill.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Consumer Protection Agency

## Basic Statement of Policy

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Tthe NAACP will serve as a black advocate for economic panty at every level of government and community life This unique role can best be achieved by assuming the responsibility for providing technical assistance to the local branches in order that proper implementation of this resolution may be accomplished at the regional, state and local branch level.*

*We will direct the National Board to provide adequate budget to implement the economic development program.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980:Basic Statement of Policy

## Minority Business Enterprise

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP recommends that President, by Executive Order, and Congress, by legislation, establish mandatory goals for all Federal funds or grants to states, localities, and public and private institutions, on a contract-by-contract or agency-wide basis for small minority-owned businesses, and that there be a goal of not less than 20 per cent of all procurement to minority-owned businesses.*

*The NAACP urges the President to direct the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to establish, as part of the budget process, a formal reporting and goal-setting system, requiring all departments and agencies to specify and separately make public the resources they plan to make*

*available to small businesses, minority-owned (black, Hispanic, Native American, Asian, Pacific American, and other racial minorities) businesses, and women in business The departments and agencies shall also be mandated to publicly report the levels of attainment of these goals.*

*Congress and the Executive Branch shall ensure the effective implementation and enforcement of PL 95-507 by adopting the following changes/recommendations.*

*1) Requiring the law or implementing regulations to provide that the prime contractor set forth a narrative description of the sub-contract or sub-contract item.*

*2) Giving the Associate Administrator for Minority Business, within the SBA, the clear authority to enforce and monitor compliance with PL 95-507.*

*The President, by Executive Order, or Congress, by legislation, shall establish a National Minority Economic Commission to provide a centralized focus to the Federal effort to assist minority business enterprise This Commission, a majority of which shall consist of non-government contractors, shall report directly to the President.*

*The Federal Government, through legislation, should establish a Minority Economic Development Bank to provide financial assistance to minority businesses.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Minority Business Enterprise

## **Federal Budget Cuts and NAACP Alternative Budget Plan**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*In the public interest, the NAACP urges the nation's rejection of these incursions on social justice programs. In the interest of justice and domestic tranquility, we urge a more thoughtful consideration of the NAACP's own (alternative) budget proposals contained in the 130-page document officially titled *Alternative Policies in the Public Interest for Economic Growth*.*

*The NAACP endorses the substance of this document, which calls for a full-scale attack on unemployment, and which provides specific strategies and recommendations to achieve national economic growth, increase productivity and combat inflation.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Federal Budget Cuts and NAACP Alternative Budget Plan



## Automobile Imports

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National Office in conjunction with all NAACP units shall make contact with state legislatures and U.S. Congresspersons and the Reagan Administration to urge acceleration of efforts in the negotiating of a strengthened agreement with the Japanese government to further limit the number of auto imports to America, consistent with the recommendations of the United Automobile Workers of America.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Federal Government to impose effective temporary restrictions on the number of foreign auto imports allowed to come into the United States pending the auto industry's retooling the industry, and we call upon Congress to enact a law which will impose a tax on all foreign autos brought into the United States.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Automobile Imports

## Black Land Loss

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National Office will develop a program and direction for the branches to counsel and aid black landowners and to advertise such a program throughout their community.*

*Lending institution information, loan opportunity for those who may have delinquent taxes, and specific information and assistance be provided in said program by each branch of the NAACP.*

*The NAACP calls upon the government at all levels, particularly the Federal Government through its rural and rural-related department and agencies, to study the problems related to the loss of black-owned lands. The government should fund organizations and programs designed to stop the loss of title of black-owned lands with provisions contained therein to better utilize such lands. The NAACP is directed to more adequately fund its Project Rural Program so that it may operate on a full-time basis with its own staff.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Blacks have lost in excess of 10 million acres of land since 1910 in the fourteen (14) southern states as well as urban property countrywide. The primary method by which black-owned lands are lost consists of tax sales, partitions, foreclosure and unscrupulous speculators. In many instances the government acquired black-owned land through its awesome powers of eminent domain and in many cases without due process and with unjust compensation.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Housing: Black Land Loss
- ◆ 1981: Black Land Loss

## **Impact of Budget Cuts on Black Youth Employment**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Youth Work Committee and the Labor Director of the NAACP coordinate and develop a program, which will address itself to this problem.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Impact of Budget Cuts on Black Youth Employment

## **Federal Employment**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office shall secure and distribute to each state conference each year data for use by the conference. State, area, or regional leadership shall obtain training in utilizing this information for maximum participation by blacks.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Federal Employment

## **Economic Development Administration**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes the dissolution of the Economic Development Administration and urges every Congressperson and senator to retain it in the budget as is.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Economic Development Administration

## Minority Business Development Agency

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP shall initiate and coordinate the effort with black business specialists, organizations, and Congressional leaders to maintain the Minority Business Development Agency within the Economic Development Administration*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Minority Business Development Agency

## NAACP Policies on Economic Growth

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The 72nd Annual NAACP Convention assembled does hereby adopt and reaffirm its total support for this complete document dated April 28, 1981.*

*The National Office hereby urges all of its local NAACP branches to work to implement this policy for full economic growth.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: NAACP Policies on Economic Growth

## Job Corps

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP unconditionally opposes the dismantling and disruption of Job Corps and urges the Administration and Congress to continue Job Corps at no less than current enrollment levels and to provide funds sufficient to maintain such enrollment levels without disruption by deferrals of funds and similar unwarranted tactics.*

*Notice of this action shall be transmitted to President Reagan, to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, to each member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, to each member of the House Appropriations Committee, and to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.*

*This Resolution shall be transmitted to all Branches, State and Regional Conferences and other units of the NAACP, and the general public by all appropriate means urging them to contact their state's Senators and Representatives and express support for job Corps.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1982: Job Corps

### **Fair Share**

#### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP's network composed of regions, state conferences, areas, branches, youth councils and college chapters shall:*

- a) Identify private and public sector entities in communities, and conduct research to determine the presence or absence of blacks at all levels,*
- b) Arrange meetings with top management personnel in private and public sector entities to present the findings from the foregoing research and seek to negotiate an agreement using guidelines established by the National Office (General Counsel) and plan actions to correct discriminatory conditions,*
- c) Use strategies which have been designed by the National Office (General Counsel).*

*Units of the Association be directed to establish Economic Development Committees and that these Committees be charged with the responsibility of implementing the Fair Share Program of the Association.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ Fair Share

### **Ten Percent Set Aside Highway Program**

#### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP actively supports the minority set-aside provision, Section IOSQ of the Surface. "Transportation Assistance Act of 1982." The Convention urges all NAACP branches, chapters~ and youth councils, in conjunction with the State/Area Conferences, through their Economic Development committees, to monitor the regulations proposed by the states as this law is implemented and to ensure, from the outset, adequate inclusion of black-owned businesses in the benefits of the set-aside programs.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1983: Ten Percent Set Aside Highway Program

## Selective Support

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP reaffirms its basic policy statements concerning political action and the Fair Share Program and urge all members and others to support the goals and objectives of the Association through selective support with respect to voting and buying.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1983: Selective Support

## Economic Development Package

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*NAACP units at all levels call upon their respective legislators to bring to the forefront of their legislative agenda a comprehensive economic development package to benefit the Black constituents in their districts.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1984: Economic Development Package

## Black Economic Agenda for Legislators

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*That NAACP branches shall call upon their respective legislators at all levels of government to bring to the forefront of their legislative agendas a black economic development package and vigorously move to maintain and extend funding for “set-asides” and SFTPs, respectively. NAACP units shall work toward other related alternatives.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1985: A Black Economic Agenda for legislators

## Employment

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Emergency Summit Meeting should be used as a prototype for meetings in state and local areas to bring together a diversity of organizations concerned with equal opportunities for all.*

*The NAACP supports the Hawkins-Kennedy “Youth Incentive Employment Act” (H.R. 691) as a means to address the critical need of jobs for our youth.*

*The NAACP National Office should target for selective buying campaigns one or two major retailers who have relinquished their affirmative action programs due to administrative action and/or support and commend a major retailer who has not succumbed to pressure from the Reagan administration to change their affirmative action plans.*

*The NAACP shall make a thorough examination of the youth employment problem with specific recommendations for its resolution concerning the 32-hour work week and the sub-minimum wage.*

*The NAACP shall structure a general overseeing committee to monitor government agencies having responsibilities for Affirmative Action programs, e.g., the FCC which deals with Important EEO issues in the broadcasting industry; OFCCP, NLRB and the EEOC.*

*The National Office NAACP should contact the SI areas where the Department of Justice is attacking consent decrees to provide them with information to support their local affirmative action programs in a visible way.*

*The NAACP and other interested organizations, in the coming tax reform debate, should work for the inclusion of the following provision: “If there is a finding of employment discrimination by any company, the legal expenses of the proceedings should not be allowed as a deduction for tax purposes.”*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: Employment

## Economic Development

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP directs its lobbying efforts within the U S Congress and Federal administration to advocate passage and monitoring of legislation and regulations designed to strengthen small business, particularly in black communities.*

*The NAACP calls for the National Leadership Conference with other black organizations to develop a plan to foster the development of black business enterprises into the 21st century.*

*The national labor unions will be solicited to join with the NAACP in helping to terminate the Credit Performance Evaluation Program at TVA and other similar types of practices in other businesses and agencies.*

*Congressional legislation will be sought which will prohibit such practices by Federal agencies and businesses that contract with the Federal Government.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: Labor and Industry: Economic Development

## **Black Representation in the Military**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office urges NAACP units across the country carefully review and evaluate all “choice” plans to ensure the following:*

*A. Local school desegregation plans are protected as well as other federal, state and local educational mandates.*

*B. Adequate funding is guaranteed to sustain viable local schools and school districts from which some students may transfer in order that all children are provided a quality integrated education.*

*C. Appropriate and free transportation be provided for all students to ensure equity.*

*D. Adequate and objective information be available to parents so that they can make informed decisions.*

*E. Specialized schools i.e. magnet schools, provide for a fair and equitable admission process; one that enhances diversity and avoids denial of admission in such prior conduct as expulsions and suspensions or status offenses which have discriminatory impact. Admissions may be denied for more serious offenses such as arrest and convictions of a felonious nature or use or abuse of drugs.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1988: Black Representation in the Military

## **Education Curriculum of Inclusion**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

The NAACP shall work to move Congress to repeal the employment sanctions.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1988: Education Curriculum of Inclusion

## **International Trade/Relations**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP stands in vehement protest of this crucial situation with U.S. Foreign trade policy.*

*The current NAACP Fair Share Program be extended to include multinational corporations doing business In the U.S. and that NAACP hold direct negotiations with the parent bodies of the multinational corporations: particularly multinational corporations whose base of operations are in Japan, South Korea and West Germany.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: International Trade/Relations

## **Black Representation in the Military**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

The NAACP urges the Department of Defense be fair in their elimination process in an effort to reduce forces overseas. Blacks being the last hired and first fired still seem to be the order of the day.

The National Board of Directors, State conferences, and Branches closely monitor the impact of U.S. tourism, take whatever action necessary to ensure that African-Americans benefit economically and socially, and that their quality of life is in no way inhibited by it.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: Black Representation in the Military
- ◆ 1990: Black Representation in the Military



## Benefits of the Tourism Industry

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National Board of Directors, State conferences, and Branches closely monitor the impact of U.S. tourism, take whatever action necessary to ensure that African-Americans benefit economically and socially, and that their quality of life is in no way inhibited by it.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1991: Benefits of the Tourism Industry

## Economic Slowdown and its effect on the African-American Community

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office urges that all regions of the NAACP call upon its branches, youth and college divisions, and state conferences to be vigilant in addressing this serious problem impacting African-Americans, including:*

- 1. Strengthening their Labor and Industry Committees;*
- 2. Reporting negative findings to, and seeking support from governmental entities, unions, industrial leaders and the press.*
- 3. Seeking the enactment of the 1991 Clvii Rights Act as a tool that will strengthen the fight against discrimination of various kinds in the workplace.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1990: Economic Slowdown and its effect on the African-American Community

## The Striker “Permanent Replacement” Legislation Approved

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

The NAACP and all of its units fully support this legislation to make hiring of permanent replacement of strikers illegal.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1991: The Striker “Permanent Replacement” Legislation Approved

## Save American Jobs Campaign

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports positive, proactive, and definitive efforts to stop the exporting of American jobs.*

*We call upon all NAACP units and people of goodwill to support this program.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1991: Save American Jobs Campaign

## Insurance Redlining

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People requests that the Congress of the United States promptly enact legislation requiring insurance companies to report and disclose to an appropriate federal agency data reasonably calculated to permit, among other things, analysis and comparison of: (1) the availability and affordability of insurance coverage and the quality or type of insurance coverage, by metropolitan statistical areas, rural areas and appropriate regions and race and gender of policyholders; (2) location of principal places of business of insurance agents and the race and gender of such agents, and the principal places of business of agents terminated and the race of such agents, by metropolitan statistical areas, certain rural areas and appropriate regions, and (3) information on the number and dollar amount of insurance claims by metropolitan statistical areas, rural areas and appropriate regions and race and gender of policyholders.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1991: Insurance Redlining

## NAACP Project to Enhance the Economic and Political Status of African American

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Washington Bureau is encouraged to develop a national public policy project, which will focus on enhancing the economic and political status of African American women.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1993: Resolution in Support of an NAACP Project to Enhance the Economic and Political Status of African American

### NAACP Project to Economic Development within the African American Community

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The Conference Department and the Economic Development Program office be charges with the responsibility to ensure that hotel properties and convention centers that the NAACP uses have aggressive Affirmative Action programs and equitable representation of African Americans at every level of their workforce; and.*

*A Black Dollar Day Demonstration shall be held at every convention to highlight and emphasize the magnitude of dollars spent by NAACP delegates and others; and.*

*All convention participants be encouraged to seek out, utilize and support local African American businesses; and.*

*The NAACP shall make these goals a priority of all meetings be they national, regional, statewide or local.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1995: Economic Development within the African American Community

### Fair Treatment of African Americans in the Entertainment Industry

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP demands fair representation and equality of treatment for African Americans in all areas of the Entertainment Industry.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1996: Fair Treatment of African Americans in the Entertainment Industry

### Investment in African American Community

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP shall continue to work for the vigorous enforcement of equal lending legislation by local, state and federal officials.*

*The NAACP will work at developing programs to encourage both minority and non-minority investment in the African American community.*

*The NAACP will continue to develop and implement educational and economic development programs for its membership, which will work toward the more effective use of African American resources for capital formation and investment and self-determination for the African American community.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ Investment in African American Community

## **African American Farm Loss**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other appropriate federal and state agencies to put in place an effective affirmative action program designed to stop the disproportionate amount of farms lost by African American farmers, and to investigate and alleviate all documented claims of racial, sexual, and religious discrimination within the USDA.*

*Local NAACP units are encouraged to study the loss of African American owned farms in their communities and to challenge local Farm Service Agencies and Rural Development county offices to provide more effective support services to African American farmers. Local NAACP units will serve as a resource for minority farmers seeking recourse from discriminatory farm loan practices. The NAACP supports legislation that eliminates the Farm Service Agency County Committee System and establishes these duties and responsibilities in a federally employed county farm executive director.*

*The NAACP supports the efforts of Black farmer and the Congressional Black Caucus in addressing this issue.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

There has been a severe decline in farm ownership by African Americans in the last seventy years. The rate of decline for African-American farms is three times faster than white farms, an estimated loss of 9,000 acres per week.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: African American Farm Loss
- ◆ 1998: African American Farm Loss

## Casino Gambling

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Economic Reciprocity Initiative include a subgroup that deals with the unique problems and opportunities presented by the Casino/Gaming Industry as they expand into our communities.*

*The NAACP goes on record requesting that an African American be appointed to the Presidential Congressional Commission to Study Gaming when a vacancy occurs on that commission.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997:Gambling

## Economic Reciprocity Initiative

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will continue to take a leadership role in reviewing the reciprocal relationship between corporations and businesses and the African-American community.*

*The NAACP will vigorously pursue industry-by-industry reviews known as THE ECONOMIC RECIPROCITY INITIATIVE as a continuation of the NAACP Fair Share Program.*

*Economic reciprocity reviews shall include, but not be limited to, the evaluation of the corporation or business in five key areas: employment, vendor development, advertising and marketing, ownership opportunities, and philanthropy.*

*The economic reciprocity initiatives shall use tools of persuasion as instruments of change. Those tools are: consumer guides, stock divestiture campaigns, direct action, targeted media campaigns, and letter writing drives/informational picketing.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Economic Reciprocity Initiative

## Establishing Business Development Institute

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP shall create a Business Development Institute, under which all NAACP economic development and economic empowerment programs shall operate.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Establishing Business Development Institute

## **Consumer Guide**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP shall take a leadership role in publishing and distributing consumer guides that evaluate and grade the minority economic development performance of corporations and companies on an industry-by-industry basis.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Consumer Guide

## **Telecommunication Assistance Program**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP encourages the adoption of legislation requiring the United States Department of Commerce to assist small/minority disadvantaged U.S. Business Enterprises by creating and establishing a "Small and Minority Business Telecommunication Assistance Program" providing provisional loan guarantees, technical assistance and service, and consulting and education services to qualified businesses and community based organizations in the United States of America.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: Telecommunication Assistance Program

## **Discriminatory Sub-prime and Predatory Lending Practices**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes the discriminatory practices associated with sub-prime and predatory lending in the United States of America and will work through the local, state and federal legislative process to make sure that such practices will be prohibited.*

*The NAACP shall seek the advanced reforms by financial institutions, regulators and policymakers. These reforms should address steering borrowers to subprime loans, preventing financing of excessive fees, limiting prepayment penalties, sufficiently addressing mortgage broker abuse and addressing unfair forced arbitration clauses.*

*In promoting such solutions the NAACP will only support legislation on predatory mortgage lending that: 1) addresses the manner in which predatory mortgage lending strips wealth from African-Americans; 2) provides meaningful solutions to end the following equity stripping practices: mandatory arbitration, exorbitant points and fees such as abusive prepayment penalties and yield spread premiums, flipping, steering, and financing excessive points and fees; and 3) allows states to continue to protect their citizens from such egregious practices.*

*The NAACP demand that severe sanctions, to include fines, restitution and incarceration, must be included in any legislation and/or regulation that is presented and/or proposed.*

*The NAACP, cognizant of the cycle of poverty caused by payday lending and the barrier it poses to asset building and home ownership, is adamantly opposed to payday lending in all forms and calls on all banks to end their affiliation with abusive payday lenders.*

*The NAACP also calls on all national, state and local banks that provide services to sub-prime lenders, mortgage brokers, appraisers, title companies and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to affirmatively support state efforts to effectively end abusive predatory and payday lending practices.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2005: Re-affirming 2002 Policy on Predatory and Payday Lending Practices
- ◆ 2005: NAACP's Anti-predatory Mortgage & Payday Lending Practices
- ◆ 2001: Predatory and Payday Lending Practices
- ◆ 2000: Discriminatory Sub-prime and Predatory Lending Practices

## **The Health Care Industry and Minority Business Opportunities**

### ***POLICY SUMMARY***

*The NAACP calls for all providers in the health care industry to adopt and implement equal opportunity and affirmative action programs which ensure minorities participate as vendors and suppliers of health care goods and services.*

*The NAACP calls for all providers in the health care industry to implement programs that encourage development of minority-owned businesses, which provide health care goods and services.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2000: The Health Care Industry and Minority Business Opportunities

## Diversity in Awarding Business Contracts

### POLICY SUMMARY

*The NAACP will collect data, communicate its findings and make recommendations to improve the reallocation of vendor contracts within the federal and state correctional systems regarding African Americans and other ethnic minority businesses.*

*The NAACP calls upon its state and local units to advocate for legislation that will seek a fair distribution of vendor contracts within the federal and state correctional systems.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2003: Diversity in Awarding Business Contracts

## Advocacy for Minority Business Development

### POLICY SUMMARY

*The NAACP recommends and encourages all units to utilize the business development centers in their region to assist in the unit's economic empowerment advocacy.*

*The NAACP expand their advocacy in their communities to share the resource of the Minority Business Development Center; a tool created by a Congressional Executive Order of the U.S. Department of Commerce in 1969 to further resolve disadvantaged groups who own or wish to start or expand their own business through advocacy for African American business development.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2003: Advocacy for Minority Business Development

## Diversity in Awarding Business Contracts

### POLICY SUMMARY

*The NAACP shall collect data, communicate its findings and make recommendations to improve the reallocation of vendor contracts within the federal and state correctional systems regarding African Americans and other ethnic minority businesses.*



*The NAACP calls upon its state and local units to advocate for legislation that will seek a fair distribution of vendor contracts within the federal and state correctional systems.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: Diversity in Awarding Business Contracts

## **NAACP's Anti-Predatory Mortgage & Payday Lending Practices**

### **POLICY SUMMARY**

*The NAACP reaffirms its 2002 policy on predatory & payday lending practices at its 96th Annual Convention.*

*The NAACP is against all forms of abusive lending practices that force African-Americans to operate in a two-tiered, separate-and-unequal financial services system and instead seeks to promote responsible solutions that address the real pain caused to the African-American community by predatory lending.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2005: NAACP's Anti-predatory Mortgage & Payday Lending Practices

## **Re-affirming 2002 Policy on Predatory and Payday Lending Practices**

### **POLICY SUMMARY**

*The NAACP stands against such practices and vigorously seek to prohibit payday and predatory lending. These reforms should address steering borrowers to sub-prime loans, preventing financing of excessive fees, limiting prepayment penalties, sufficiently addressing mortgage broker abuse and addressing unfair forced arbitration clauses.*

*The NAACP shall seek the advanced reforms by financial institutions, regulators and policymakers.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2005: Re-affirming 2002 Policy on Predatory and Payday Lending Practices

## **Credit Cards for Youth**

## **POLICY SUMMARY**

*The NAACP and its Units call upon the United States Congress and state legislature to change these predatory lending practices.*

*The NAACP and its Units call upon the United States Congress and state legislature to request that institutions include credit card education in the form of a pamphlet, prior to issuing credit cards.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2001: Civil Rights: Credit Cards for Youth

## **E-Commerce**

*The NAACP calls on ebay and other E-Commerce sites so identified to cease selling of racially insensitive items from their website.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- 2003: E-Commerce Resolution

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Education

# Desegregation

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We are firmly committed to desegregation and quality integrated education from pre-school through post-graduate and direct all our units to work toward the achievement of this objective. Wherever school desegregation can take place it must. Where it can not be implemented, litigation, lobbying and direct action strategies must demand that state legislatures pass a school finance bill which provides resources equitably to all school districts and hold each school district accountable for how funds are spent.*

*All NAACP units and the National Board must urge legislators and the Department of Education to cease the attack on equal access to and the provision of quality integrated public education by using all the tools and resources necessary, including pupil transportation, to insure the opportunity for quality integrated education for all. All NAACP units must take all necessary steps to expose "divide and conquer tactics" by informing community parents, students and organizations of the potential of ad hoc groups, comprised of well-meaning but inexperienced community people, for delaying the march of minority communities from Jim Crow public schools to quality desegregated education. The NAACP directs our branches, state conferences and youth units to reject any attempt to deny our children an equal educational opportunity in fully desegregated and integrated schools.*

*The NAACP rededicates itself to the promise of Brown, the achievement of equal educational opportunity for all children. In spite of the problems associated with changing demographics and segregated housing, the NAACP refuses to abandon the fight for integration, realizing that it produces too many positive outcomes in the form of a more open and accepting society to be relinquished. The NAACP will no longer be satisfied with simply dismantling the structure of segregation, but will be concerned with providing a quality education for all African American children wherever they are in schools. The NAACP will pursue policies within schools where classes are tracked and segregated in the curriculum where the culture and contributions of African Americans are omitted, and in outcomes by reducing the achievement gaps and other educational disparities. The NAACP will pursue the desegregation of higher education together with the enhancement of Historically Black Colleges and Universities as a significant aspect of those plans.*

*The local NAACP Branches, along with the State Conference Education Chairs, will review the occurrence of resegregation and condemn those instances where it has occurred.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP was established to protect the civil rights of minority citizens by working to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination. The NAACP was successful in its effort to reverse the adverse decision as enunciated in *Plessy v Ferguson* by successfully litigating *Brown v. Board of Education* based on denial of equal protection and racial effects.

A number of studies have indicated that there is a growing trend towards resegregated schools. Various anti-desegregation or anti-busing measures, if adopted, would effectively foreclose opportunities for minority children to receive equal education in the unsegregated environment required by the *Brown* decision of 1954. It is incongruous to think that segregation, resulting from deliberate gerrymandering of school zone lines will be eliminated in three or five years or that equality of educational opportunity will be voluntarily accorded to ethnic minorities when progress has been minimal in the years since the *Brown* decision.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1976: Emergency Resolution on The School Desegregation Standards and Assistance Act of 1976
- ◆ 1976: Efforts to Circumvent Meaningful School Desegregation Plans
- ◆ 1980: Reaffirmation of Policy Position
- ◆ 1982: Survival of Public Education
- ◆ 1985: Education
- ◆ 1994: 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*
- ◆ 1996: New Resolution (Reaffirming 1976 Resolution)
- ◆ 1996: Desegregation in Education and Housing
- ◆ 1997: Resegregation

## Standardized Testing

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP opposes “High Stakes Testing” for students. The NAACP advocates for states to place a moratorium on all High Stakes Testing Legislation until adequate resources are provided to remove the statistical significant racial disparities in the results. The NAACP reiterates its previous call for constructive corrections to the federal “No Child Left Behind” law to include, eliminating the over-emphasis on standardized testing, broadening curriculum and instruction to focus on rich academic learning as opposed to test preparation. Adequately funding the mandates of the law, eliminating loopholes which allow for the exclusion of low-scoring students in order to boost reported testing results, and holding states and localities accountable for making the systemic changes that improve student achievement.*

*The NAACP demands a moratorium on standardized testing wherever such tests have not been corrected for cultural bias. We are categorically opposed to invalidated competency tests and their misuse which stigmatize and deprive children of equal educational opportunity culminating in the denial of a high school diploma.*

*Wherever standardized tests are introduced, that the NAACP will monitor the use of such tests and seek to require that they be competently designed, fairly administered and used only as guides for improving and measuring the effectiveness of teaching in the schools. To that end, NAACP directs*

*our branches to request copies of all tests currently used by the local school district as a basis for educational decisions regarding pupil placement, assignment, and promotion, and forward those tests to the Education Department of the National Office for follow-up. A national clearinghouse for data and research should be established. This clearinghouse would provide data to be used by lawyers, lobbyists, information dissemination centers etc. Research reports should be written up in a popular way for use by laypersons and others. A network for information dissemination should be established and well-structured. Churches and the radio are especially recommended for the dissemination of research and ideas.*

*The NAACP calls upon its members to pressure all concerned to resist the clamor to spend millions of dollars for the development of a national assessment system which will not solve our educational problems, but rather invest those funds into programs which will achieve the national education goals. The NAACP insists that before any assessment system is developed in the future, it be required to demonstrate how it will improve the quality of education and provide for equity. The NAACP insists that any assessment or students use multiple methods, be performance based, and diagnostic and prescriptive in nature.*

*State and local school systems must be held responsible for providing the resources and funding necessary for all students to meet the proposed standards. The NAACP urges the government to provide funding to support educational enrichment, tutorial programs for students that are not reading, writing, or solving math programs on grade level.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Many school districts and states throughout the United States are now attempting to institute “High Stakes Testing” by various methods, and by their design result in the retention or failure of children to be promoted or graduated. Standardized testing has increasingly been used to classify, stratify and certify individuals and groups in our society. Test scores influence the way children think about themselves, and teacher expectations of the children. Additionally, there is increasing evidence that tests, as used, are determining what is being taught, rather than measuring what is being learned. Standardized testing has resulted in the denial of a high school diploma, penalizing the student by decreasing job opportunity, further educational training and advancement, thereby limiting equal opportunity

Over 100 million standardized multiple choice tests are administered each year and the nation's classrooms consuming some 20 million school days add expending the equivalent of 900 million dollars in direct or indirect expenditures.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Monitoring Use of Tests
- ◆ 1978: Competency-Based Testing / Minimum Competency Testing
- ◆ 1978: Health: Manpower
- ◆ 1979: National Testing Movement
- ◆ 1985: Education
- ◆ 1992: A National Assessment System
- ◆ 1998: Reaffirmation of Tracking Systems in Public Schools (Reaffirming the 1992 Resolution)

- ◆ 2003: Repeal of “High Stakes Testing”
- ◆ 2006: Reaffirming Commitment to Quality Education, Proactive Advocacy, and Equitable Public School Funding

## The Standardized Testing Industry

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the testing industry, including the Education Testing Service, American College Testing Program (ACT), Psychological Corp., Harcourt, Brace and Jovanovich, Science Research Associates, College Entrance Examination Board, CTB- McGraw Hill to state with clarity, on all descriptive information concerning a test, the specific uses for which the test is designed, the specific limitations of the instrument, and information as to how the results should be interpreted in acceptable professional practice.*

*We urge the testing industry, at a minimum, to include within the information it publishes concerning standardized tests of ability, achievement, personality and any other assessment procedures, specific data regarding predictive content and prescriptive validity.*

*We call upon the testing industry to convene a group of national black and other affected minority organizations to initiate dialogue around the implementation of the recommendations and issues raised on this resolution.*

*We call upon the testing industry to establish and fund an independent research and development corporation charged with the responsibility to (1) identify the critical problems in assessment as they relate to minority groups, (2) to sponsor research to investigate those problems requiring study, (3) to sponsor appropriate development work and to involve researchers who have the endorsement of minority professional and community associations and to set aside a minimum of 4 percent of net income to support these objectives.*

*We call upon the National Office, through the Education Department, to assist local units in resolving problems arising from the misuse of tests in their locality.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Companies that develop, publish and sell tests should assume (or continue to assume) major responsibility for assuring the correction of deficiencies in their instruments.

The testing industry makes money from the administration of tests and has the responsibility of devising satisfactory and systematic ways of taking into account probable main effect-variables in the instructional setting.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: The Testing Industry

## Office of Consumer Affairs in Testing and Student Evaluation

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP directs our branches and state conferences to urge their respective states to establish a task force for the development of an Office of Consumer Affairs in Testing and Student Evaluation, or in the alternative assign this responsibility to an existing state agency capable of pursuing the objectives herein. The responsibilities of this agency would include, but not be limited to, the following.*

- (a) Consumer advocacy regarding the use and misuse of tests as well as advising parents of their legal rights in the testing of their children.*
- (b) Advocacy for the adoption of a "Truth-in-Testing" law.*
- (c) A test review board to scrutinize and systematically monitor test utility, development, policies and practices of all agencies employing assessment procedures.*
- (d) The development of informational advisory centers and layman documents on testing for parents of school children.*
- (e) The development of comprehensive Statewide Standards on Testing which reflect the interests of minority groups on the testing issue.*

*We seek legislation in each state to establish a Research and Development Office which will have the latitude to study empirical questions of teacher and pupil performance in contrast to an office which functions as a statistics mill for legislative accountability.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

There is a need to halt current discriminatory testing practices.

Blacks and other minorities are being increasingly subjected to various kinds of standardized tests which adversely affect their opportunities and accomplishments in later life.

There has been systematic exclusion of minorities at all phases of test development to utilization and such exclusion presents a major concern in the evaluation of minority intellectual development and subsequent achievements in life.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Office of Consumer Affairs In Testing and Student Evaluation

## Federal Regulatory Agency for Testing

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**



*The NAACP calls upon the Congress to establish a Federal Regulatory Agency for the testing industry similar to the Federal Communications Commission, the Food and Drug Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency for the protection of the citizen consumer of tests and evaluative and assessment procedures.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Congress through recent Federal legislation is placing increasing emphasis on program evaluation with the recent amendment of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (as amended by PL 93-380) charging the Commissioner of Education with the responsibility of developing and publishing "Standards and Models for Program Evaluation," including the use of specific techniques and methodologies for such evaluations.

The Office of Education, in carrying out this Congressional mandate, is publishing a Series of Monographs on Evaluation in Education covering various issues regarding testing and evaluation.

The testing industry is a multi-million dollar industry, receiving millions of Federal dollars.

Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended gives the state increased responsibility in the area of program evaluation (including program evaluation) and states are currently selecting advisory councils and developing methods of evaluation.

The Education of the Handicapped Act of 1975, recognized the importance of protecting children from misdiagnosis by insisting on the development and use of "culture fair tests" and the bill (PL 94-142) includes a short statement on the importance of gathering data from various sources rather than a single test, when diagnosing a handicapping condition.

The Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights (PL 94-103) calls for the establishment of a comprehensive system for evaluating the progress of individuals with developmental disabilities.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Federal Regulatory Agency for Testing

## **The Davit Statement**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP condemns Dr. Bernard Davit's unwarranted attack upon minority medical students.*

*We direct the National Office of the NAACP to transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Davit, the Dean of the Harvard Medical School, President Derek Bok, the Harvard Board of Overseers and the National Medical Association.*

*We direct local NAACP units to guarantee that the publication of the unwarranted and repudiated Davit thesis does not effect a reduction in the efforts of local medical schools to provide access and sensitive opportunity to qualified minority students by the transmittal of copies of this resolution to relevant officials in local medical schools.*

*The NAACP call upon medical schools across the country to provide expanded opportunities to minority students by active recruitment leading to enrollments and by continued financial support to make possible the completion of academic studies by minority students once they are admitted.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

National attention has focused on a charge by Dr. Bernard Davit of Harvard, that academic standards in the nation's medical schools had fallen in recent years because the rise in the number of minority students with "sub-standard academic qualifications." The charges drew widespread criticism from academicians including the Dean of the Harvard Medical School who called Dr. Davit's action "irresponsible." Dr. Davit's expression of regret dealt with his failure to anticipate that his article in a professional journal "would reach the public press."

Such ill-conceived and erroneous characterizations from would-be shapers of public policy work to the detriment of blacks and other minorities by raising the racist idea that minorities are incapable of academic excellence and such statements can be used to limit the opportunities of blacks to engage in academic pursuits.

We are aware that Dr. Davit has made a belated apology, but do not believe such insensitive and unwarranted attacks can be either tolerated, forgotten or ignored.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1976: The Davit Statement

## **Financial Aid in Higher Education**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly opposes the adverse effect of any legislation that will serve to inhibit, if not severely curtail, the ability of minority students to secure financial assistance to obtain a higher education.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress of the United States and the individual state legislatures across the country to guard against the devastating impact upon minority and low-income advancement which budget cutbacks will have. The NAACP must take all necessary steps at both the local and National Office level to halt the national drift back to a state of affairs in which such education is made available only to the wealthy.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Approximately 80 percent of black students enrolled in institutions of higher education depend upon financial assistance in the form of both loans and grants.

Deep cuts in Federal financial assistance will erode equal educational opportunities for blacks and other minorities. The Federal Government has refused, or failed, to take a stand against cutbacks in financial aid to low-income and minority students in institutions of higher education. Many low-income and minority students enrolled in colleges and universities are greatly dependent upon financial assistance to continue their education, and many others not yet enrolled will never be able to pursue productive careers without the availability of such financial assistance in the form of both loans and grants.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Financial Aid Cutbacks in Higher Education
- ◆ 1981: Student Financial Aid

## **New Jersey School Funding**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP call upon the Governor and the Legislature of the State of New Jersey to adopt judicially acceptable financing mechanisms which will also avoid penalizing the poor and minority students of New Jersey.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

New Jersey was under court order to establish on July 1, 1976, a method of financing public education which does not depend on the property tax. The New Jersey State Legislature failed to comply with the order by July 1, 1976. The failure on the part of the New Jersey Legislature has resulted in a termination of all local, state and Federal funding for public education. The termination of local, state and Federal funding for New Jersey public schools has resulted in severe disruption of the educational and employment plans of thousands of low-income and minority persons, including:

- (1) Termination of summer sessions with the result that thousands of students will be unable to graduate from junior and/or high schools.
- (2) Unemployment of thousands of young and adult workers who face payless paydays.
- (3) The loss of millions of dollars in Federal programs and matching funds. The minority students in the public schools and universities of New Jersey, as in other parts of the country, have already been victimized by the educational inadequacies caused by racial segregation and discrimination, and will, thus, be disproportionately harmed by the closing of the public schools, colleges, and universities.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

## Quality Education

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP, through its branches, must hold the nation's school systems accountable for providing quality integrated education for all students and insuring that all students have access to the necessary resources and opportunities to meet the high level performance standards, in an environment which fosters individual growth and development, and avoids stigmatization.*

*The NAACP directs our units to define quality education as an adaptive, multifaceted process which provides a nurturing psychological environment reinforced by strong support, guidance and instructional systems which prepare individuals to function effectively in a mobile, multi-ethnic, technologically-oriented society, enabling them to actualize their potentials, pursue their aspirations and understand their obligations to society.*

*We call upon the Administration to take a leadership role in assuming adequate funding for public education by heeding the admonition of his own Commission, "Excellence costs, but in the long run mediocrity costs more."*

*The NAACP urges and supports federal, state and local community/school collaborations, which include but are not limited to: Early childhood preparatory and continuing education programs; clean and safe learning environments and facilities which include technology-oriented infrastructure; reduced class size; new opportunities for meaningful parental involvement; enhanced teacher development and performance; implementing educational systems which incorporate respect for cultural diversity; instructional programs that promote the development of workplace competencies; funding and budgeting policies and practices; research, review and approval committees; technology-related curriculum.*

*As our children continue to fall through the cracks of the educational system at an alarming rate, the NAACP National Office, state conferences, and local branches must continue to evaluate the relevancy of their education policies and programs for children today. The NAACP state and local Education Committees across the country must become active participants in the development and implementation of the goals, standards and assessments to ensure equity.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP recognizes that resource inequities continue to plague public education resulting in disparities along race and class lines in such areas as limited instructional supports, poor school facilities, poor quality and quantity of textbooks and curricular materials, and limited access to challenging and rigorous classes. The NAACP is increasingly concerned regarding the quality of education that black youth receive in our nation's public schools. The burdens for the academic shortcomings have been placed disproportionately upon the black students.

The NAACP recognizes the continuing need to increase public awareness about persistent disparities in public education combined with innovative and aggressive advocacy strategies.

The Goals 2000 Educate America Act (PL103-227) officially establishes the following eight (8) national goals for all school systems to achieve.

1. All children will begin school ready to learn.
2. Ninety (90) percent of high school seniors will graduate.
3. Students will graduate from the fourth, eighth, and twelfth grades after demonstrating competency in English, Mathematics, Science, Arts, Foreign Languages, Civics and Government, History, Geography and Economics.
4. The nation's teachers will have access to the professional development necessary to help them prepare students for the 21st century.
5. All Americans will be literate and possess the skills needed to compete in the international economy and be responsible citizens.
6. American schools will be free of drugs, guns, alcohol and violence and will offer students an environment conducive to learning.
7. Every school will promote programs that will increase the participation or parents in the social, emotional and academic growth of their children.
8. Today's society expects schools to ensure that all students have opportunity to become mathematically literate and are capable of extending their learning, have an equal opportunity to learn and become informed citizens capable of understanding issues in a technological society. As society changes, so must its schools.

Educational goals for students must reflect the importance of mathematical literacy and the NCTM standards articulate the following general goals for all students: (1) they learn to value mathematics, (2) they become confident in their ability to do mathematics, (3) they become mathematical problem solvers, (4) they learn to reason mathematically.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1977: Definition of Quality Education
- ◆ 1983: Emergency Resolution: Quality Education
- ◆ 1983: Guaranteed Quality Education
- ◆ 1992: Education
- ◆ 1994: National Goals and Standards
- ◆ 1996: New Resolution (Reaffirming the 1994 Resolution)
- ◆ 1996: New Resolution (Reaffirming the 1977 Resolution)
- ◆ 1997: Educational Reform
- ◆ 2006: Reaffirming Commitment to Quality Education, Proactive Advocacy, and Equitable Public School Funding

## Teacher Quality

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*NAACP branches must call for competency assessment of teachers and administrators which requires the establishment of criteria for assessment, a determination of the degree to which a teacher or administrator exhibits or perceives these competencies, a delineation of minimum duties, requirements and expected levels of performance of each position. Competencies for teachers must include ability to communicate, to teach, to*

*relate to students, ability to evaluate performance, and manage the classroom. The National Teachers Examination currently used for licensing teachers must be either totally eliminated or redeveloped to reflect goals stated in competency terms, and not a simple paper and pencil test of content.*

*NAACP units must monitor the actual accreditation process of teacher training institutions and, where possible, e g , in states that now have external assessment of visiting teams to teacher education institutions which include the lay public, to seek NAACP representation on such teams. We direct our state or area conferences to work with appropriate educators to make a formal review of state requirements for licensure and to make formal recommendations to those licensing commissions as appropriate.*

*State and Local NAACP units are directed to collect and organize data that will provide information regarding the numbers/percentages of African-American student in relation to the total student enrollment, and the distribution of those students in gifted/talented classes v. Special education classes. In addition, information concerning the rate of retention, suspension and expulsion of African-American student should be obtained. This information can then be used to inform the media, request action from the Board of Education that will increase access of African-American students to higher level courses and gifted and talented experiences, eliminate tracking, decrease the numbers of African-American student in remedial and low-level courses, make the necessary changes to decrease need for suspensions and/or expulsions, and provide necessary support for disadvantaged students, so that they may develop the skills required to achieve academic parity. The NAACP must summarize its findings about teacher education annually and issue a "Report Card" on institutions which prepare teachers and on those agencies designated to support teacher education.*

*Able black students should be identified and encouraged to go into teaching. Society at large should raise the compensation of teachers and maintain and expand the number of black teachers, since education is especially important.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

A quality education demands that the teacher be committed and dedicated and well-trained in the subject matter taught and possible methods of using it as a tool to produce the desired outcomes. The teacher must be fair and must not be influenced by the socio-economic status, race, or sex of the pupils. Teacher assessment must be based primarily on how well the teacher performed in the classroom. The curriculum of teacher training institutions is antiquated and evasive in matters of race and quality. Study after study of teachers, as they operate in the actual classroom setting, underscore the inadequacy of schools of education in preparing future teachers to educate the varied populations of our public schools. The following are some of the policies and practices that contribute to the mis-education of African-American students:

- Under-qualified and under-prepared teachers who are disproportionately placed in "at risk" schools serving majority black students.
- "Tracking" practices which limit "at risk" and black students to the lowest quality and level of knowledge, and the least prepared teachers.
- Lack of enrichment resources and instruction, as opposed to extensive remedial instruction.
- Lack of understanding and frequent misuse of standardized tests, resulting in the mis-labeling, misplacement, and mis-education of many black students.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1977: The Classroom Teacher
- ◆ 1977: Teacher Education
- ◆ 1985: Education
- ◆ 1993: Recommendations of the 2nd Annual NAACP Daisy Dates Education Summit

## Curriculum

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP directs our units to insist that school systems meet the objectives of a quality education for black students by providing learning experiences in four curriculum categories, i.e., communications and computational skills, marketable and practical skills and environmental and cultural skills for self-study.*

*The NAACP will endeavor to correct the injustice of African Americans having been negatively affected by the discriminatory and purposeful omission of ancient history and African American History in the public school system. The NAACP endorses the development of national education standards in education that insure that the study of all minorities, including African-Americans be included at all levels of the curriculum. The NAACP urges all state departments to develop curricula and programs that integrates the historical accomplishments and challenges of African Americans and other minorities.*

*The NAACP direct its branches, youth councils, college chapters and state conferences to urge State Education Departments, Boards of Education and local education agencies to purchase books and other curriculum materials from publishers and distributors that present the historical accomplishments of minority Americans. NAACP members are directed to get involved with any committee or task force involved in the development, dissemination, and evaluation of curricular materials.*

*The National NAACP Office directs the Education Department to contact textbook publishers and the developers of other curriculum materials informing them of outstanding historians and other scholars in related fields who could correct the omissions concerning the contributions of blacks to this nation's development. NAACPers within Region VI affected by the discriminatory teaching of America's history invite the National Office to assist in implementing necessary corrective action.*

### BACKGROUND:

The educational deficiencies observed in black youth today are the result of limitations in the training of teachers and overt and covert racism in the research of many academicians and scholars. Lack of research efforts to identify the positive attributes which minority group children bring to the school environment is evident. The current study of African American history across the United States lacks concepts critical to a basic understanding of the history of African Americans. There is a need for a chronological, sequential and historical accounting of the significant roles

of African Americans in the development of this country. African American history happened concurrently with American history thus African American history should be recorded, aligned and integrated accurately throughout curricula as it happens.

Textbooks and other curriculum materials are important tools for teachers and students in the comprehensive teaching-learning process. Many exclusionary curricula continue to exclude the works and perspectives of non-Western cultures and African-Americans as well as the experiences and contributions of other large segments of American Society. The NAACP has criticized textbook publisher developers of other curriculum materials for many years because of their blatant benign neglect to include contributions of black Americans in proper sequence as the United States developed.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1977: Curriculum
- ◆ 1984: Cultural Diversity in Curriculum Materials
- ◆ 1990: Education Curriculum of Inclusion (Reaffirming 1966-1968 and 1984 Resolutions)
- ◆ 1991: Integration of Black History (Reaffirming 1990 Resolution)
- ◆ 1995: Inclusion of African Ancient History and the History of African American Throughout the Public School Systems (K-12)
- ◆ 1996: Establish National Education Standards
- ◆ 1997: Cultural Diverse Curriculum
- ◆ 2003: Resolution for NAACP units to Call for Legislation Establishing Commission to Integrate African-American History into State Curricula

## Early Childhood Education

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP will be in the forefront of efforts, for the sake of black and other children, to assure the continuance and accessibility through expansion of the Head Start Program and kindergarten, as full day programs. The NAACP directs its chapters to support measures like 1988's "Smart Start," an all-around education, daycare, dropout prevention and literacy program. The NAACP supports a credentialing program, e g , the Child Development Associate Consortium, to assess the capability of pre-school trainers based on their demonstration of competency in the classroom in certain basic areas. The NAACP will seek to assure these programs are conducted without discrimination.*

*At the kindergarten level, significant emphasis must be placed on language expression, orientation or computation, and reading readiness.*

*The NAACP, in compliance with its "Call To Action In Education," directs state conferences and local units to propose legislation to change the compensatory school age to not greater than six if it does not now exist.*



## **BACKGROUND:**

Access to a quality education is a major goal of the NAACP. The quality of early childhood, pre-school educational experiences (3-5 years of age) can have a positive effect upon success in early school years. Nineteen (19) years of findings show that when children have had the benefit of early childhood education, 66% graduate from high school as compare to 49% who have not. 382 graduate from higher education institutions as compared with 2 who have not. 61% are literate as compared with 382 who have not been so exposed. 50% are employed as compared with 32%. 18% of persons who have had early childhood education are on welfare as compared with 32 who have not and 31% of persons who have participated in early childhood education are arrested as compared with 512 who have not.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Early Childhood Education
- ◆ 1983: Head Start Expansion
- ◆ 1984: Improving the Quality of Early Childhood Education
- ◆ 1987: Early Childhood Education (Reaffirming 1977, 1983, 1984 resolutions)
- ◆ 1988: Smart: The Community Collaborative for Early Childhood Development Act of 1988
- ◆ 1989: Early Childhood / Kindergarten
- ◆ 2004: Compulsory School Age

## **Burden of Proof in Desegregation Cases**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the President to assert strong leadership in future litigation on the issue of segregation intent, favoring proof of segregation effects as opposed to segregation intent.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The trend of the judicial branch has, since the successful prosecution of *Brown v. Board of Education*, shifted the burden of proof of segregation intent to plaintiffs and such shifting of the burden of proof has a negative impact upon minority citizens.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Legal Affairs-Education

## Medical Educational Opportunities

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the President and the Congress to redress this imbalance by the appropriation of Federal monies for the establishment of new medical educational facilities, e g , Morehouse Medical School and Charles R Drew Postgraduate Medical School, and/or to expand existing facilities that will insure increased medical educational opportunities for black and other minority students.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Health and Hospitals: Medical Educational Opportunities

## Special Education

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP units urge school districts to establish advisory groups of parents to review programs, delivery services and to provide input in the decision-making process and all aspects of education which includes educational programming. The NAACP must develop a program to train parents how to evaluate IEPs and assess whether placement is proper in both regular and special programs. The NAACP must identify and maintain a cadre of consultants to provide technical assistance to parents regarding the Individual Education Plan's evaluation and assessment and other supportive services necessary for developmental growth of each child.*

*NAACP branches must monitor school districts' procedures to assure that testing and evaluation materials used for evaluation of placement of handicapped children are racially and culturally non-discriminatory and that no single procedure is used as the sole criterion for determining an appropriate educational program for a child. The NAACP calls upon educational agencies to "only" label children as educationally mentally retarded ("EMR") after examination and determination by licensed school psychologists, medical or psychiatric professionals. The NAACP advocates that those children properly diagnosed as "EMR" receive lifelong social security benefits.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Many school districts assume that black children are "special" whether they occupy positions within the special education curriculum or within the general educational system and place blame on the victims, the child and the community, rather than deal with the problems of education.

Public Law 94-142, "Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975" mandates a set of specific and systematic procedures which are to be implemented for the purpose of guaranteeing a quality education for all handicapped children. The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) which stresses parental involvement is a good vehicle for developing black parents' mastery over the total education process.

A disproportionate number of African-American males are labeled Educationally Mentally Retarded (“EMR”). These children are often labeled “EMR” by teachers or others in the education profession with no medical or psychiatric experience. Children labeled “EMR” are placed in educational programs which do not provide a standard diploma or occupational skills, and therefore receive social security benefits. These social security benefits are discontinued at the age of 22 leaving these children with no means of livelihood.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Special Education
- ◆ 2001: Educationally and Mentally Retarded

## **The NAACP Report on Minority Testing**

*The NAACP directs our units, youth and adult, to implement the recommendations of the NAACP Report on Minority Testing, setting forth recommendations and an action agenda.*

*The NAACP Education Department will establish a national task force to develop specific guidelines for laymen's participation in and support of standardized assessment procedures and disseminate the guidelines to the broadest possible audience.*

*NAACP units are directed to establish contact with local chapters of the Association of Black Psychologists for technical assistance in implementing this resolution.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

A disproportionately large number of black students have been misplaced in special education classes as a result of scores on standardized texts.

The 1974 convention mandated the Education Department at the National Office to use its influence to bring together the Educational Testing Service, the College Entrance Examination Board and the Association of Black Psychologists regarding this issue, and the Education Department has published the NAACP Report on Minority Testing, setting forth recommendations and an action agenda.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: NAACP Report on Minority Testing

## **The NAACP Report on Quality Education for Black Americans**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Education Department must establish a national task force and employ a program developer to develop specific guidelines for branches and youth councils to implement the recommendations in the Report.*

*We direct our units to place top priority on implementation of this Report.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP Conference on "Quality Education for Black Americans an Imperative" was an outgrowth of the NAACP's concern over the deteriorating quality of education received by many black youth. There is a growing trend by school systems to place more and more basic subjects, such as English, history and mathematics, as electives for high school students. A disproportionately large number of black students are being tracked into occupational training and vocational education. There is an urgent need for imaginative, effective ways to upgrade the curricula, school environment and the overall quality of school life in order that black and other minority children receive an equal educational opportunity. The Education Department has published the "NAACP Report on Quality Education for Black Americans an Imperative," setting forth recommendations and a blueprint for action.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: NAACP Report on Quality Education for Black Americans
- ◆ 1983: Guaranteed Quality Education (Re-affirming 1977 Resolution)
- ◆ 1996: New Resolution (Reaffirming the 1977 Resolution)

## **Credit by Examination**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Education Department must study the value or detriment the CLEP exam has on the educational advancement of students and its effects on black students.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

College-level examination programs (CLEP), an arm of the College Entrance Examination, was organized during the 1967-68 academic year to give students credit by examination and thus reduce the tenure and financial strain upon the student.

95,000 students are taking 250,000 CLEP examinations in a variety of subjects annually. The passing rate is 74 per cent and the tests are recognized by more than 1,800 colleges as substitutes for course credit. There is wide controversy by the academic administration on the debasement of the academic process and on the validity of the indicators to measure the students' academic achievement or ability. This examination may be seen as a device to produce wholesale educational advancement of white students over blacks, and widen the educational gap.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- 1977: Credit by Examination

### The Emergency School Aid Act

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP strongly urges Congress to increase the funding level for non-profit agencies and organizations, operating under the mandates and provisions of the Emergency School Aid Act.*

*The enforcement powers granted under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibit discrimination in federally-assisted programs, must be recognized as being fully applicable to ESAA funding.*

*The NAACP strongly urges Congress to increase the funding level for non-profit agencies and organizations operating under the mandates and provisions of this Act, and*

*The role of the NAACP must be continued as a consultant to the Standard System Development Corporation in the evaluation of the enrollment of school districts and expenditure of ESAA funds*

#### BACKGROUND:

The NAACP stands for the progress of all children in public education, and the NAACP has as its stated national policy the complete elimination of racially isolated and racially identifiable schools.

The Congress of the United States has allocated funds under the Emergency School Aid Act (P L 92-318) to eradicate the effects of racially isolated and racially identifiable schools. This Act provides funds to local non-profit agencies to augment the implementation of the eradication of racially isolated and racially identifiable schools

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- 1977: Emergency School Aid Act (ESAA)

### Guidance and Counseling

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*NAACP branches and youth councils urge the inclusion of a counseling curriculum component at the elementary school level.*

*The NAACP must develop and disseminate a fact sheet to inform students, parents and community groups what students should ask of counselors, what students should look for and what questions parents should ask of counselors to insure proper counseling of students.*

*NAACP branches must monitor school systems to ensure that counselors demonstrate the ability to provide assistance in educational, occupational, personal and social needs of the black student*

*We reaffirm our position on monitoring hiring practices to insure that educators, including guidance counselors, are hired in such manner as to adequately represent and address the needs of Black students.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Guidance counselors are crucial for the effective and cognitive development of students at all levels. In order to assure that quality counseling practices exist, counseling and guidance professionals must acknowledge and continually reexamine the impact that their effectiveness or non-effectiveness has on our nation's youth and understand that this impact is measured in direct proportion to the counselor's ability to serve as a catalyst, innovator, advocate and agent of change throughout the educational structure.

Black students are not being channeled to consider studies at historically Black colleges or to pursue courses necessary for post-secondary education. Nor are they being apprised of the opportunities available to them in the areas of financial aid (scholarships, loans, grants, internships) and career development. There is need for additional curriculum planning and programs for students which include student workshops, skill building classes and activities in the areas of personal effectiveness and decision-making.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Guidance and Counseling
- ◆ 1986: Guidance and Counseling

# **The Role and Responsibility of Students**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on black students everywhere to recognize and assume a responsible role in the learning process, and never use his/her ethnic or cultural background or his/her socio-economic status to excuse a failure to participate in the learning process to the extent of his/her ability.*

*We direct our branches and youth councils to seek significant involvement of students in the educational process through voting representation on the school board in order to acquire knowledge and impact concerning the practices in policy-making in the schools.*

*We urge students to learn to make decisions and to have logical, mature reactions whenever stress and pressures are applied from forces within or outside the school environment.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The student's primary responsibility is to participate in those educational experiences designed to enable one to become self-reliant, to become an informed citizen, to achieve a level of literacy necessary for effective functioning in a technologically-oriented society.

It is the student's responsibility to participate positively in the creation of a school environment conducive to learning even when negative educational practices hamper the black student in achieving the goal of a quality education.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: The Role and Responsibility of Students

## **Federal Enforcement of Education Legislation**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the President and the Congress to direct the Department of Health, Education and Welfare [Department of Education], specifically the Office of Civil Rights, to enforce the law in a timely fashion, including the cutting off of Federal funds from institutions found in non-compliance with the law.*

*We vigorously protest the abandonment by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Office of Civil Rights, of the tool provided by law to enforce the rights of minorities, i.e. , funds cutoff, and the use of negotiators which permit school districts to further delay the enjoyment by black youth of equal educational opportunity.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was enacted to relieve the burden on the courts by providing an administrative remedy for enforcement of the law.

HEW in the past 8 years has almost abdicated its responsibility to enforce the law and has also failed to promulgate clear standards defining the obligation not to discriminate.

Inordinate delays in issuing standards, and guidelines, initiating investigations and enforcement proceedings have denied persons rights guaranteed under the law.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Federal Enforcement of Education Legislation

## Educational Malfeasance Suits

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will monitor educational malpractice suits with the intent of more direct involvement if the situation warrants.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP stands for the progress of all children in public education. The NAACP stands for educational practices consistent with attainment of the highest possible standards of quality education. There has been a significant increase in the filing of educational malpractice suits.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Educational Malfeasance Suits

## Increasing Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Professions

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The Education Department of the NAACP must communicate to all branches the opportunities available to minorities in technical professions.*

*The Education Department must develop proposals, in consonance with minority technical organizations, to be supported by all NAACP branches and state conferences, that would encourage industries and government agencies to devise effective programs to assist minorities in entering, receiving appropriate training, and increasing employment opportunities in the technical professions.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

There is an increasing demand for minorities in the engineering and scientific professions. Minorities historically have been under-represented in these professions (typically less than 1 per cent of the technical population) due to lack of motivational influences, both economic and educational.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Increasing Minorities in Engineering and Scientific Professions

## Black Student Support Services in Colleges and Universities



## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges colleges, universities and the Federal Government to promote the formation of and the continued funding of support programs that include-*

*(a) academic assistance*

*(b) financial assistance*

*(c) an advocate specifically concerned with the protection of the rights of black students, who has access to the university decision-making process, but is as independent of the university administration as possible*

*Special academic and financial assistance programs must not be separated from the already existing academic and financial assistance delivery system, but existing criteria must be expanded to place more emphasis on need.*

*Institutions of higher learning must provide an opportunity to black college students for input regarding financial assistance based on need, counseling service, student rights, and curriculum reform in conformance with the policies of this organization.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Support services, aimed at bringing academic success or financial stability to black students at predominantly white colleges and universities, are being increasingly phased out or downgraded. The continuation of these support programs is vital to the maximization and actualization of black student access to equal education opportunity.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1977: Black Student Support Services

## **Federal Funding for Education, including Title I**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress of the United States to authorize sufficient funds in order that every child eligible for participation can receive assistance. Title I of the Act must remain as a categorical grant to insure that the program has a meaningful impact on those educationally disadvantaged children most in need of compensatory services. These Federal funds must be allocated on the basis of a poverty measure to assure that poor children have equal access to educational resources.*

*We further call for legislation and/or administrative regulation to allow Title I funds to follow the child to any public school to which he or she is assigned. We urge swift Congressional reenactment of Title I of the Act, and the NAACP Education Department will monitor the progress to see that money appropriated by Congress for the poor will be spent in their behalf.*

*The NAACP directs its officers, staff and all of its branches to strenuously lobby Congress and the executive branch to substantially increase federal funding for education, especially those from low socio-economic status households.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

An educational crisis exists in the black community at all levels from kindergarten through the college level. The educational expenditure per student in most urban/inner city areas is substantially lower than that of neighboring suburban areas. The tax base of many inner city/urban area school systems will not adequately support funding of a first rate educational system, with adequate facilities, textbooks, equipment and teaching resources.

Federal funding for education doubled every six years during the period 1965 to 1985. Recent research studies have clearly demonstrated that children in Title I programs are closing the gaps with other children. A large proportion of children eligible or participating in Title I programs are members of minority groups.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
- ◆ 1988 Federal Funding for Education

# **Tennessee State A & I University**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The sense of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires that colleges be supported and enabled to perform their proper educational, research and community functions on the same basis of respect and economic support that is afforded white institutions. In the specific instance of the case involving Tennessee State A & I University and the University of Tennessee Branch at Nashville, the NAACP applauds the decision of the court to merge those two institutions under the administrative leadership of Tennessee State A & I University, and urges the State of Tennessee to withdraw its appeal.*

*Other states should note and voluntarily implement the intent of the court in the Geier vs Blanron case.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The concept of integration of an educational institution has never meant the elimination or the diminution of its influence in the community where it is located. Tennessee State University and those black schools involved in the *Adams vs Califano* case, and those traditionally black publicly-supported colleges and universities, are universities and colleges of long national standing and historical importance.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Tennessee State A& I University

## **Rural Education Opportunities**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Youth and College Division must study and develop a program for rural NAACP youth units to aid the growing black rural population in attaining educational and economic advancement.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

New census figures indicate that the black exodus from the rural South to the urban North is slowing. Job opportunities in the regions, towns and counties are increasing almost a third as fast as the opportunities in the southern city. According to the Emergency Land Fund, today there are fewer than 100,000 black farmers in the South, and a tenth of the region's total where, 20 years ago, blacks operated 20 per cent of the South's farms.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Blacks in the New South

## **ACT-SO**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The objective of the Afro-Academic Cultural Technological Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO), which is to promote minority academic excellence on a competitive level, should become a high priority in regions, state conferences, branches, and college chapters and youth councils.*

*The National Board of Directors is directed to form a task force to recommend ways in which the ACT-SO program can more effectively interface with the Youth and College Division including participation in the total convention.*

*ACT-SO participants are required to become a member of the NAACP in order to be a contestant in the ACT-SO competition, and are to be strongly encouraged to stay and participate for the entire length of the National Convention in order to better understand the inner workings of the NAACP.*

## BACKGROUND:

The National NAACP staff has proposed a major effort to emphasize excellence in black students other than athletic and entertainment-related fields.

The Afro-American Cultural Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO) was launched by the NAACP with the goal of enhancing the prospects of our youth. Participants in the ACT-SO competition and the NAACP Youth College Division could gain immeasurably from active participation and ACT-SO competitions in the total program of the Youth and College Division.

The ACT-SO Program has become a strong and integral part of the NAACP. ACT-SO participants would get a more complete education on NAACP by participating in the entire Convention, but one must be a member in good standing to be a voting delegate at the National Convention. Requiring membership for participation has a precedent in the requirement of NAACP membership to receive the Agnes Jones Jackson Scholarship.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1978: ACT-SO
- ◆ 1985: Youth Work: ACT-SO
- ◆ 1988: Youth Work: ACT-SO

## Access to Higher Education and Professional Training, including Test Preparation

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*Every NAACP will unit monitor local and state legislation that would prohibit access to higher education, through pre-college enrichment programs and open admission policies. The NAACP vigorously opposes any effort to limit access to higher education through budget cuts, elimination of remedial programs, or curtailing affirmative-action programs that seek to increase opportunities for minorities in higher education. The NAACP calls upon the U S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) to conduct a national investigation of the dropout, pushout, failure rates, enrollment and alleged racist internal policies at a minimum of 20 diversified predominantly white professional schools throughout this nation.*

*The NAACP strongly supports private and public funding for the admission, retention and preparation of blacks for professional fields. We commend and support those colleges and universities which affirmatively have increased enrollments of blacks at their institutions. The NAACP will work with existing organizations to ensure that information as well as opportunities for preparation for careers in new and expanding job markets is available for African American youth and adults.*

*The NAACP will identify the need for and undertake legal action where such is required to protect the rights of access of African-American youth and adults to gain entry to institutions of higher education. In particular the NAACP recommends: (1) That secondary schools encourage minority students to enroll in college preparatory curricula; (2) That community colleges, where many black students receive their introduction to higher education, more effectively coordinate their transfer programs with four-year colleges; (3) That colleges and universities aggressively recruit black students, provide strengthened support services that respond to the needs of black students, faculty and administrators, and hire and promote more*

*black faculty and administrators; (4) That universities and colleges expand admissions criteria from an undue emphasis and/or reliance on standardized tests as the sine qua non of qualification for college admission; (5) That existing civil rights laws be rigidly enforced against institutions which continue to exclude and/or limit advancement in academic ranks; (6) That institutional policies and procedures which have the effect of limiting opportunities for black students, faculty members, and administrators should be rigorously studied and corrected; (7) That higher educational institutions divest themselves of investments of corporations doing business in South Africa.*

*The NAACP strongly encourages parents and concerned friends to serve as mentors for African-American students and continue the promotion of tutorial programs which provide an opportunity for these students to become aware of the curriculum they choose in preparing for future employment opportunities.*

*The NAACP calls upon professional test preparation companies to provide scholarships for minority students and, if they fail to do so, calls for the establishment of free state or local training centers for minorities and persons who cannot afford such fees. NAACP branches must insist that schools incorporate test-taking strategies into their curricula, as well as ensure that the tests reflect what is being taught. Local units of the NAACP, through their education committees, must establish test preparation workshops for blacks based on the successful model established by the national NAACP.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

National Board Chairman Julian Bond eloquently articulated a profound and lasting statement: "Higher education can no longer be regarded as a privilege for the few, but must be seen as a right for the many." Access to higher education has been an act of struggle for many people of African Ancestry. The policy of open access to colleges and universities has expanded opportunities to obtain higher education for hundreds of thousands of minority youth throughout the nation.

Education has played a major role in the economic, political and social mobility of black Americans. It is increasingly important in a highly industrialized, technical society that black Americans have access to and be provided the opportunity for developing essential marketable skills. Programs of open access to higher education are being unfairly targeted for elimination or substantial downsizing by state legislators, mayors, and some members of Congress

There is a glaring shortage of minorities in professional schools in this country. There is a deficit of funding, both public and private, for the preparation, education, admission and retention of blacks in many professional schools such as law, medicine, dentistry, engineering, forestry, pharmacy and veterinary medicine, and the shortage of black representation precludes proper servicing of the black community. This practice of charging high fees for preparatory courses operates to the detriment of poor and minority people who are unable to pay such fees.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Support for Private and Public Institutions for the Training of Blacks in Professional Fields
- ◆ 1979: Access to Professional Education
- ◆ 1982: Higher Education-Private and Public

- ◆ 1985: Coaching for Testing
- ◆ 1991: A Resolution in Support of Education for Future Employment
- ◆ 1991: A Resolution in Support of Education
- ◆ 1996: Remove Barriers and Assuring Access to Higher Education
- ◆ 1998: Open Admission

## Vouchers

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National NAACP opposes any efforts to establish on the federal or state levels, vouchers schools, which would direct resources from public education. The NAACP will continue to monitor and to oppose nationally all efforts to institute school voucher programs, regardless of the guise under which these programs emerge.*

*The NAACP's strongly opposition to any form of voucher systems as inherently discriminatory and regressive, must be clearly communicated to the media, all State Conferences, Branches and to the general community.*

*State and Local NAACP units are directed to collect data regarding public school per-pupil expenditures and local private/parochial school costs, conduct "town-community" meetings concerning that information, invite persons representing public and private school systems to respond to queries and provide information that will help formulate decisions about "choice", and invite legislators who will be involved in influencing final decisions about "choice"*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Many school districts and states are now attempting to institute voucher systems whereby a student may receive from a school district moneys to be used as the student may see fit in educating himself or herself. It is clear that the results could be financially devastating to the public school system on which so many minorities and poor depend.

The NAACP has historically opposed the use of state voucher plans and the use of Federal funds to enable parents to send their children to private schools. The expansion of private schools from such tuition tax credits would do irreparable harm to school desegregation/ integration and foster racial and socio-economic group isolation as well as increase resistance to support public education through taxation by those with children attending non-public schools.

Black and Hispanic families will not be able to avail themselves of the private school option because they will not be able to afford considerable cost beyond the value of the voucher, with the result that children of color will still largely be trapped in increasingly underfunded public schools.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Packwood-Moynihan Tuition Tax Credit Legislation
- ◆ 1982: Survival of Public Education
- ◆ 1985: Education
- ◆ 1992: Opposition to All Voucher Systems and Programs
- ◆ 1992: Voucher Plans
- ◆ 1993: Recommendations of the 2nd Annual NAACP Daisy Dates Education Summit
- ◆ 1997: Opposing School Vouchers
- ◆ 2003: Opposition to all Voucher Systems Re-affirmation

## Magnet Schools

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes any programs which have either the purpose or effect of evading the mandate for system-wide school desegregation, or which deny our children, in all schools, the necessary resources and high educational standards for academic achievement. Magnet schools must be opposed where they are not connected to safeguards against school desegregation and/or where magnet schools take resources away from poor children and give them to affluent children and/or in any instances where magnet schools are tools of elitism.*

*The NAACP must take steps to evaluate the effectiveness of magnet schools in terms of their benefit to black Americans, especially those magnet schools that resulted from court cases in which the NAACP was a party. Local branches of the NAACP are directed to carefully monitor existing magnet and choice programs and insist that the following safeguards be incorporated into any policy governing newly-established magnets:*

1. *That district-wide access is available for students on the basis of preference rather than elitist selection criteria, i.e., high test scores or teacher preference, which would reduce minority access.*
2. *That the student and staff composition closely reflect the racial and ethnic composition of the system and that they not be considered exceptions.*
3. *That adequate funding is guaranteed to sustain viable local schools and school districts from which some students may transfer in order that all children are provided a quality integrated education.*
4. *That the location of the facility be chosen for its racial, ethnic, and socio-economic neutrality in order to be successful in terms of desegregation.*
5. *That local school desegregation plans are protected as well as other federal, state and local educational mandates.*
6. *That appropriate and free transportation be provided for all students to ensure equity.*
7. *That adequate and objective information be available to parents so that they can make informed decisions.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

As of 1985, there were approximately 1,018 magnet schools in the country, with 601 elementary, 173 middle or junior high, and 244 high schools. As of 1990, 23 States had adopted or were in the process of adopting plans that involve educational choice, while some 40 states had choice plans or programs on at least a district level. Magnet schools can be misused as a means of avoiding desegregation, and creating a two tiered school system - the top tier for middle class and high achieving students and the bottom tier for the poor and at-risk students.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: Magnet Schools
- ◆ 1985: Education
- ◆ 1989: Magnet Schools
- ◆ 1990: Education Choice

## **Minority Faculty at Colleges and Universities**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will launch a national investigation and issue a report card on public universities' tenure practices and level of compliance with the NAACP Call to Action, including tenure practices. The NAACP vigorously condemns those officials of institutions of higher learning who resist affirmative action allegedly on the ground of academic freedom, especially those who pay lip service to school*

*We insist that the Department of HEW enforce Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act as it applies to faculty hiring, promotion and tenure, and enforce the national policy of affirmative action with respect to all institutions of higher learning that receive any financial assistance from the Federal Government.*

*The Youth and College Division of the NAACP will work with local branches to document the disparity in minority representation among the faculty. Working together, they will develop affirmative action remedies for this situation.*

*State and Local NAACP units are directed to provide test-taking skills workshops for undergraduate students preparing for graduate school, provide scholarship assistance for well-qualified students, develop job banks to facilitate access to careers in higher education, provide mentoring support for new instructors, encourage and assist with the development of training for school administrators to ensure effective leadership for diverse teaching staffs, and support expanded Ph.D. Programs in HBCUs.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

On most college campuses, the ratio of minority faculty to minority students is far from representative. Minority students across the country are concerned about lack of minority faculty. The "buddy-buddy" system of recruitment and hiring of faculty by institutions of higher learning has resulted in a predominantly white male professional core in the college-university educational profession. Those minority group and female teachers who do secure employment suffer extreme difficulty in obtaining tenure because of discriminatory practices. The tenure in higher education is not



only a great accomplishment but connotes a sign of excellence bestowing security and permanence. The tenure process is heavily impacted by subjective criteria that may be discriminatory in application thereby eliminating highly qualified persons of color.

The under-representation of minorities, particularly African-Americans, in academic faculties of majority institutions must be addressed, in order to help assure greater access of minorities to the upper-education pipeline. There is a need for the development of legislation that will include financial incentives to require graduate schools to use multiple criteria for student selection (that is more inclusive of minority participation), support initiatives to require that qualified minorities be included in all faculty search pools of candidates for positions, focus on increased African-American student participation at institutions that provide graduate education, increase the awards, and make Pell grants an entitlement program, and provide federal recognition for those accrediting agencies that use diversity as a criteria.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Minority Faculty on College Campuses
- ◆ 1979: Tenure of Black Faculty
- ◆ 1993: Recommendations of the 2nd Annual NAACP Daisy Dates Education Summit
- ◆ 2003: Tenure Process of Public Universities

## **Affirmative Action in K-12 Education**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*All units must take steps to insure the implementation and promotion of African-American teachers and administrators to teach within the public school system. We direct each local branch of the NAACP to assume the responsibility of insuring that its school district is in compliance with the various Federal affirmative action regulations. The National Office of the NAACP is directed to develop an affirmative action kit to be used by all branches to oversee and monitor the affirmative action employment practices in school districts.*

*State and Local NAACP units are directed to continue NTE test-taking skills classes, encourage the development of future teacher cadet programs in high schools, develop career fairs with local school educators and colleges, for youth and parents, establish scholarships specifically for teacher education, and initiate mentor programs for college students with local teachers.*

*The NAACP, through its Education Department, State Conferences, and Local Branches, will issue an urgent call for prospective teachers, capitalizing on student groups/classes of African ancestry, encouraging them to select and venture out into one of the most noble of professions--teaching.*

*The NAACP will collaborate with school districts and Departments of Education in colleges and universities, in an effort to effect the call for future leaders of African ancestry in our public schools by requesting school districts to assure the availability of fully funded and sponsored activity groups such as Future Teachers of America or groups with similar purposes and goals.*

*The NAACP strongly condemns arbitrary and capricious practices used to circumvent the true intent of affirmative action requirements, by adopting tactics which seek to use women and other non-black minorities as a device to reduce the number of blacks hired, and demand an early meeting with the Secretary of HEW in regard to such practices, and urge all branches and units to gather data which portrays these flagrant abuses. The NAACP must develop plans and take steps to insure that these tactics are defeated, and that the provisions of Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act are fully complied with by the local public school administrators and school boards. The NAACP further calls upon HEW to withhold funds from school districts engaging in such practices.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Declining numbers of minority educators in the public school system have caused great concern through African-American community. The 1996 profile of Black teachers was reported at 7.3% as compared to 90.7% whites. Students of African Ancestry are nationally void of teachers of their identity in the classroom setting. Minority students need good qualified role models. The lack of good role models impart negatively on minority students.

The NAACP has specifically noted the following ploys used as efforts to frustrate meaningful affirmative action programs: (1) White women are employed as minority representatives; (2) Latin surnamed Americans are employed in preference to blacks; (3) Black women are given preference to black men; (4) Vacancies, once held by blacks, are increasingly filled by whites; (5) The employment of one black frequently means the end of employment for others.

Many, if not most, school districts receive funds directly or indirectly from various Federal agencies and many such school districts fail to employ blacks at all levels of school operation according to the mandates of the Federal affirmative action regulations.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Staffing Inequities and Affirmative Action in Desegregation Programs
- ◆ 1976: Reduction of Black Staff In Desegregation Efforts
- ◆ 1980: Affirmative Action by School Districts
- ◆ 1991: Increased African-American Staff in the Public School System
- ◆ 1998: Teachers of African Ancestry

## **Fee-Based Summer Education**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Proposed “fee-based” summer education programs are a threat to the comprehensive education of blacks and other minorities, since such fees could be used as a measure to deny equal access and opportunity.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

State government and local school board officials are expressing concern for fiscal austerity exhibited by budget cuts and the non-passage of bond issues. Property tax measures to finance public schools have been found unconstitutional in numerous states. Proposals for "fee-based" summer education programs are being pushed by state legislatures.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Public School Financing Fee-Based Education

## **Tax Benefits for Segregated Private Schools**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP condemns those who have sought to intimidate the Internal Revenue Service in its efforts to deny tax benefits to those who violate the law of the land. We immediately call upon members of Congress to cease their attempts to prevent I.R.S. from enforcing the Constitution. We immediately call upon I.R.S. to issue the regulations designed to deny tax exemptions to segregated private schools in final form without further weakening modifications.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Internal Revenue Service issued for comment regulations regulations designed to deny tax exemptions to segregated private schools. As a result of pressures brought by organiza-tions and church groups who operate such schools, such regulations have been weakened.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: I.R.S. and Segregated Private Schools

## **Computers in Schools**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP demands the acquisition of appropriate computer hardware and software and the development of educational curricula in all schools of America which incorporate not only a familiarity with computer technology, but also increase students' ability to program the computers and otherwise fully utilize this technology, without regard to race, color, creed, sex or national origins.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Computer technology has opened a new horizon for personal achievement and has produced significant benefits for those with access to the technology. There is a real danger of the educational equity gap being widened between the rich and poor school districts, due to the disparity in the attainment of computer equipment software and trained teachers.

The NAACP has long been a champion of equality of educational opportunity for all without regard to race, color, creed, religion or national origin. The introduction of high technology in the form of computers into the educational environment in many school districts around the nation has improved the educational attainment of students and their motivation for education.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1983: High Technology Education

### **Eradication of Illiteracy**

#### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP is directed to take the lead in developing the network among religious, social, cultural, fraternal and educational organizations to accomplish the goal of eradicating illiteracy through workshops, conference, publications and legislation.*

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP is aware of the critical impact of illiteracy, economically and sociologically, on our younger and older generations. The ability to spell, read, write, speak, compute, and comprehend can prepare blacks to fully participate and advance in a technologically-oriented society.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: Eradication of Illiteracy

### **Black “Think Tanks”**

#### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will not abandon the law and the courts as a means of addressing civil rights. The NAACP will establish a “think tank” by 2015 to begin a new philosophy of law that will address civil rights into the twenty-first century or for the next twenty-five or thirty years of dealing with conservative judges and to interact with the mass media.*

*These Think Tanks shall stress research and monitor, record, and analyze racial progress and retrogression in the African American community. The establishment of these Think Tanks must serve to educate American society on African American values and issues. The NAACP urges branches,*

*churches and community organizations to support and use black research and development centers and “think tanks” and encourage the establishment of others as the need arises.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP recognizes the devastating effect of false information and ideas pertaining to the reality of black life. It understands the role that culturally inaccurate and scientifically unfounded research plays in the continued disenfranchisement and mental oppression of black people. It is clear that the black community must assume the authorship of its own future.

The well-being of the black community is directly dependent upon our community’s ability, and willingness to support activities designed to positively affect the development of research and training relevant to our vested self interest.

Brilliant black lawyers such as Charles H. Houston began developing and exploiting a philosophy of law that led to our civil rights victories in court when the courts had an extremely conservative view on civil rights. Creating black “think tanks” will provide an arena in which to develop an evolving understanding of civil rights which can be used before conservative federal judges in all courts, including the Supreme Court, who have an “old” view of civil rights laws.

Since the 1960’s, the right wing movement has created over 360 conservative Think Tanks that flood the media with opinion editorials, political pundits for television and radio shows. Their lobbyists work the legislative arenas, distributing policy proposals, briefing papers, and position statements. According to Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting [FAIR]’s third annual survey of major newspaper and broadcast media, fifty three (53%) percent of major media’s Think Tank citations were provided by think tanks of the right, while citations from the progressive or left leaning think tanks amounted to merely 16% of total citations.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: Support for Independent Black Research
- ◆ 1998: Miscellaneous: NAACP “Think Tank”
- ◆ 2003: Civil Rights: Establishment of African American Think Tanks

## **Educational Services For Teenaged Parents**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP branches must encourage local school districts, civic groups and churches to establish family life education with equal emphasis on both sexes, for elementary and secondary students, to be provided by trained teachers, trained peers, and trained adults.*

*NAACP branches are directed to support the creation of child-care programs for the children of parents who are students.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP is making a special effort to support programs that will enhance the stability and strength of the black family.

Each year far too many teenagers become parents without being emotionally, socially and economically prepared to handle the responsibility of parenthood. In 1980, among females aged 15-19, 4.5% of all whites and 9.5% of all nonwhites gave birth to a child. Two out of three pregnant girls drop out of school without adequate skills for employment.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: Educational Services for Teenaged Parents

# **Survival of the Historical Black Colleges and Universities**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the governors and the legislators of those states with historically black colleges and universities to increase funding support to these schools at the same degree as they do for the traditionally white schools. The NAACP will aggressively support and promote the campaign of HBCUs to encourage alumni and friends to contribute to the financial well being of HBCUs.*

*The NAACP shall undertake every effort to investigate and take appropriate action(s), including possible litigation, to address violations of the law by states and/or the federal government with respect to state public higher education desegregation plans as they impact the viability of State HBCUs and, consequently, the interests of the Association, its affiliates, and members.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The historically black public colleges and universities have not been adequately funded and supported as public institutions by their state governments. These institutions have provided an education to many black leaders. These institutions continue to provide an educational opportunity to many blacks who would not have this opportunity if these schools did not exist. Most HBCUs remain racially segregated with crumbling facilities and inadequate budgets compared with white institutions. Lacking adequate libraries, scientific and research equipment, and facilities, handicaps HBCUs' ability to remain viable in this new 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1986: Survival of the Historical Black Colleges and Universities
- ◆ 1996: New Resolution (Reaffirming the 1986 Resolution)
- ◆ 2006: Public Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in Crisis

## Extracurricular Activities

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon its branches to take an active part in the development of policies related to black students and extracurricular activities, in order to ensure equity while demanding excellence for all youth. The NAACP calls upon the branches and state conferences to demand that states and local school systems put into place the counseling and support services needed to provide a quality education for all students, especially those who have the added weight of extracurricular activities.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

As part of the reform movement, state legislatures are passing laws mandating that students meet certain minimum requirements before they are permitted to participate in extra curricular activities. Extracurricular activities are defined differently by certain school systems, and may include activities as varied as field trips. Some school systems have inflexible rules which may penalize the learning disabled students.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1987: Education and Extra-Curricular Activities

## The Plight of Black Student Athletes

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirm its 1974 policy position and launches a major program to oversee the academic progress of black athletes at all levels of our educational System to ensure that our black students receive the best education possible, and that they are not exploited by the athletic establishment.*

*The NAACP push for a balanced approach in education and athletics by insisting on a stronger academic involvement by athletic departments and by endorsing programs for the development of students interested in athletics from junior high school to college so that education is not de-emphasized.*

*The NAACP calls for a Freshman Athlete Review Board on all college campuses, whose job would be to review and frequently monitor the academic standings of freshmen athletes and decide whether they are academically qualified to participate in varsity sports.*

*The NAACP call on colleges and universities to ensure that opportunities to pursue a degree beyond the traditional four years are made available to all students receiving athletic scholarships.*

*The NAACP call for stringent sanctions to hold colleges and universities accountable for the academic achievement of their student athletes.*

*The NAACP will work with NCAA, NAIA, colleges and universities and the newly formed Student Athletic Association to achieve equitable treatment of student athletes in income-generating sports including, but not limited to, compensation and academic resource services that will lead to graduation even after their college eligibility has expired.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP expressed its concern regarding the exploitation of black student athletes in a resolution passed at its 65th Annual National Convention in 1974. Intercollegiate athletics, especially in football and basketball, have become a lucrative business.

The endowments and budgets of colleges and universities, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), coaches, athletic directors, some alumni, businesses, cities and counties have benefited richly from the growth of income-generating sports. The NCAA recently secured a multi-billion dollar contract with CBS for the broadcasting rights of the basketball championships alone. Collegiate athletics represent the "gateway" or farm club system for professional football and basketball. It is illegal for students to share in the profits generated by their work. Students and the colleges they attend are severely disciplined for minor but often inadvertent infractions of NCAA rules regarding compensation. Many athletes are indigent.

The graduation rates of student athletes of color are often sub-standard. Many athletes of color leave college with no degree, broken dreams and bodies.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: The Plight of Black Student Athletes
- ◆ 2000: Exploitation of Collegiate Athletes

## **Drugs and Athletes**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will develop a program to inform and educate our youth on the danger of using illegal drugs with special emphasis on the black athlete.*

*The NAACP calls on the federal, local, and state governments to enforce laws against illegal drug trafficking and use.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The use of illegal drugs has increased as a whole throughout the country. Illegal drugs have an acute impact upon the black community, and black youth in particular. Athletes, as a group, are exposed more to drugs because of physical demands on their bodies and large sums of money placed at their disposal. Athletes can and should serve as role models in actively discouraging illegal drug use.



## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1987: Drugs and Athletes

### School Lunch Subsidies

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP urges the federal government to provide the full funding for the school lunches subsidies in order to reach all eligible children.*

#### BACKGROUND:

The surplus food program has made it possible for schools to provide nourishing lunches to children. These lunches to some children may be the only nourishing meal for the day. A good meal is vital to a child in furnishing the energy to learn and to keep the body in good health.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1990: Continuance of School Lunch Subsidies

### Hate Crimes on College Campuses

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP reaffirms its 1975 resolution on “The Protective Rights of All Students,” which enumerates steps the NAACP needs to take.*

*NAACP units near institutions of higher education must continue to intervene when racial incidents occur and work with the institution in conducting an assessment of racial attitudes and behavior on campuses and to institute or amend specific codes of conduct for students, faculty, and administrators, that not only prohibit racist behavior but also protect free speech and encourage such speech on campuses in the form of open discussion and analysis to the end of exposing the evil or racism and encouraging greater understanding, tolerance, and respect among people of all races.*

#### BACKGROUND:

In the 1980s and 1990s there was a resurgence of racism in society in general and on college campuses in particular.

The problem is so severe that thirty-one states have made ethnic intimidation or harassment a crime: and, Congress recently passed legislation requiring the Justice Department to list and report hate crimes as a necessary first step in addressing this problem.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1990: Harassment on College Campuses
- ◆ 1992: Racial Hostility on College Campuses

## All African-American Male Schools

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP, while cognizant of the complex problems of the African-American male, must reaffirm its historical opposition to school segregation of any kind, and calls upon all persons concerned to find workable alternatives to the proposed segregated education for African-American males.*

*The NAACP calls upon all researchers to desegregate the data, not only by race, but by race and sex in order to better ascertain the problem.*

*All units of the NAACP be encouraged to develop various projects that can be targeted to the needs of African-American males.*

### BACKGROUND:

The NAACP recognizes that the situation of the African-American male in America is one of severe crisis with the African-American male rating the worst on every single social indicator.

In the area of education, the African-American male is especially at risk.

There have been efforts all across the country to create all black male schools at the elementary and secondary levels to address this problem.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1991: All African-American Male Schools

## Saving Meharry Medical College

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP supports Meharry Medical College in its effort to gain equal access to the Nashville General Hospital and the Nashville V.A. Hospital, and will express support in writing and by whatever other means feasible to the local metro authorities, the President of the U.S.A., the Congress and the V.A. Central office in Washington. The U.S. Attorney General will be directed to terminate discriminatory use of public funds and facilities in this matter.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Nashville Branch, assisted by the Tennessee Conference of Branches, to intensify its efforts to mobilize grass-roots for the merged hospital that would save Meharry and, as well to cultivate local political support.*

*The National Office of the NAACP, through its Office of Public Relations, must utilize all possible means to publicize Meharry's plight, including appealing to such persons and organizations as U. S. President Bush, Director of Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan, Governor of Tennessee, the State's Congressional delegation, the Meharry Alumni Association, and the medical and hospital associations at the local, state and national levels.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Meharry Medical College, during its 115-year life, has trained at least 40% of black physicians in the nation. The school's financial status falls in the red, about \$5 million annually, a result that makes it increasingly difficult to recruit new doctors and professors. Meharry graduates have demonstrated their intense concern for mankind by their upscale practice in underserved rural and inner city areas and, moreover, the school offers places in its first-year classes to black students whose test scores would likely keep them out of other schools. Black life expectancy is in a tenuous condition and less than 7 percent of the nation's doctors are black, and Meharry is clearly among the most seriously-needy medical schools in the nation today. And. The school's modern Hubbard Hospital, with a bed capacity of 250, rarely has more than 100, a number so low that it has lost -- or is about to lose -- accreditation for its residency programs in surgery, pediatrics and obstetrics-gynecology.

The Vanderbilt University Medical center, Nashville's largest private employer and the dominant influence in the area, has agreed to a Meharry proposal that would shut down Nashville General Hospital where 60 percent of its patients are white, and move its operations to Meharry Hubbard where 80 percent of its patients are black. Meharry would essentially give its hospital facility to Nashville on the condition that the merged hospital would service the school's teaching center, a consequence that would also allow the city Meharry to regain sound economic health.

Race and medical care have become so emotionally entwined that, despite a task force report recommending the merger and an accounting study indicating it would save money for the city, the seven-member Metro-Nashville Hospital Board, after a two-year study, voted against the proposal earlier this year, which now heads toward a showdown vote later this year in the Nashville Metro Council.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1982: Health: In Support of Meharry Medical College
- ◆ 1991: Saving Meharry Medical College

## **Comparable Funding For Black Graduate Students**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office of the NAACP must encourage and help all branches ensure that the following policies and actions be taken by the U.S. Congress and state legislatures, especially state legislatures in states with significant African-American populations:*

*1. Whenever American universities use federal (or state) funds for graduate student research support, and whenever that support covers more than one student, then for every international student that American faculty members chose to support with these federal (or state) funds, they must also support a black minority student.*

*2. Since major American research universities do not currently provide comparable research opportunities to American minority students as those provided to international students, now would be the time to address this issue by providing major research commitments to Historically Black Colleges and Universities that have successfully demonstrated the ability to graduate. It seems likely that those institutions are uniquely suited to provide the type of quality research environment that will develop the minority talent currently being lost to our nation.*

*3. Incentives should be given to those universities where the minority percentage of Ph. D. Graduates roughly equals or exceeds the percentage of minorities in their state populations. This could be accomplished through the addition of a 10-point bonus to every federal or state competitive research contact.*

*State and Local NAACP units are directed to serve as clearinghouses for graduate education grants and awards information. They are further directed to collect data regarding local/area distribution and probable disparity of graduate scholarships and grants in order to disseminate to the media, encourage local corporate support for scholarships and grants to African-American students, and encourage development and/or support of legislation to increase available funds for qualified African-American graduate students.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

African-American citizens constitute more than 13% of the U.S. population but received less than 3% of the doctorates from United States universities in 1990 while non-American citizens received 28% of all doctorates from American universities that year. African-American males constitute 6% of the U.S. population, 47% of the U.S. prison population, 5% of top corporate positions in the private sector, but constitute less than 3% of those with access to U.S. post-secondary education and less than 1% of those who received doctorates from American universities in 1990.

Direct federal grant funding for doctoral support has declined in favor of more loan funding (for American citizens) with the result that almost 70% of all funding for graduate education is in the form of federally subsidized research assistance that research university faculty are much more likely to give to international students in comparison with American minorities. To support the access of American-born minority students to the graduate education pipeline, and thus increase the number of minorities with post-baccalaureate degrees, institutions must assure greater availability of financial resources for graduate education.

Legislation, accompanied by financial incentives to graduate institutions, should be developed in order to guarantee funding to qualified American minorities, before those resources are made available to students from foreign countries.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1992: Comparable Funding for Black Graduate Students
- ◆ 1993: Recommendations of the 2nd Annual NAACP Daisy Dates Education Summit

## Federal Recognition of Accrediting Agency

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP condemns these actions by the Secretary of Education and urges reconsideration since the NAACP considers diversity not merely a laudable and moral objective but an essential ingredient for a true quality education, in order for students to function effectively in our pluralistic society and world.*

*The NAACP will look at both legal and legislative strategies that will support those accrediting agencies that are committed to their diversity requirements in regard to students, faculty, administrators and trustees.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Secretary of Education threatened to withhold recognition of the Middle States Association of Colleges and schools for its use of campus diversity as a criterion of effectiveness in its evaluations, which he considers inappropriate. The Middle States under threat changed its requirements stating that each school was free to define diversity for itself and that the requirement was not mandatory for accreditation. Diversity fostered within institutions of higher education does not necessarily erode the diversity that exists among institutions such as historically black colleges, religious institutions, and men's or women's colleges. There are other accrediting agencies which have diversity as a criterion which will probably be challenged and not officially recognized.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1992: Federal Recognition of Accrediting Agency

## Race-Specific Scholarships

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly condemns the Department of Education's continuing effort to restrict scholarship opportunities for minorities.*

*The NAACP urges Congress to develop, if necessary, laws to rectify this policy reversal, permitting institutions of higher education to use their funds to enhance campus diversity and provide minorities with meaningful access to higher education.*

State and Local NAACP units are directed to work with colleges and universities to ensure the continuation of scholarships for African-American students, work to ensure continued donor support (both private, individual and corporate) of these scholarships, develop scholarships for African-American students within their own ranks, and serve as a resource of scholarship information for students.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Less than one percent of all students enrolled in colleges and universities are beneficiaries of race-specific scholarships. Only two percent of student aid from all sources are devoted to race-specific scholarships and therefore does not diminish opportunities for other Americans. The U.S. Department of Education has had a long-standing policy of permitting the use of minority scholarships as a means of encouraging and enforcing minority participation in higher education.

Scholarships for African-Americans at all education levels should continue to be made available, because of the continuing under-representation in academics and the professions. Colleges and universities traditionally administer scholarships based on ethnicity, gender, religion and other characteristics. For African-Americans, race is ethnicity. It is, therefore, inequitable to target race-based scholarships for elimination.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1992: Race-Specific Scholarships
- ◆ 1993: Recommendations of the 2nd Annual NAACP Daisy Dates Education Summit

## **The Algebra Project**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports and endorses both the concept and the goals of the Algebra Project nationwide and takes this position in the interest of all of our children, as a friend of education.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Today's society expects schools to ensure that all students have opportunity to become mathematically literate and are capable of extending their learning, have an equal opportunity to learn and become informed citizens capable of understanding issues in a technological society. As society changes, so must its schools.

Educational goals for students must reflect the importance of mathematical literacy and the NCTM standards articulate the following five general goals for all students: (1) they learn to value mathematics, (2) they become confident in their ability to do mathematics, (3) they become mathematical problem solvers, (4) they learn to reason mathematically.

The Algebra Project, as developed by Robert P Moses, proposes to create a national collaborative designed to substantially increase the number of minority and poor inner-city and rural students able to succeed in Algebra and thus enter the college track in high school.

The Algebra Project's goals are (1) to organize a mathematics literacy effort designed to train teachers to deliver high quality middle school mathematics curricula in poor inner-city and rural areas with predominantly minority populations in order to prepare these students to enter college preparatory mathematics and science tracks in high school. And (2) to put in place a set of self-supporting networks that will ensure that the efforts of the project will produce long-term results for students, schools and communities.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1994: National Goals and Standards

## NAACP and Black Football Coaches

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP and black football coaches will establish a partnership to promote black coaches and administrators in athletics and work to eliminate discrimination in our colleges and universities.*

### BACKGROUND:

Black students comprise the majority of all athletes in basketball and football teams in Division I colleges and universities. Only a small percentage of black coaches and administrators in athletics are employed by Division I colleges and universities who participate in football and basketball. This image sends an erroneous message to our student-athletes that we can perform, but we cannot manage. The presence of more African American coaches and administrators in athletics could provide more positive role models to the African American student body.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1994: NAACP and Black Football Coaches

## Annual Cultural Book Drive

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP will set up an Annual Cultural African American Book Drive so the local communities may have access to material that reflects their culture and history for research and development as well as improve literacy levels. This will not be a fundraiser per se, but this will be a service to the local community. Items can be distributed at local community centers and churches where families and children gather. NAACP branches will do the chore of locating donated materials.*

### BACKGROUND:

African Americans do not receive adequate exposure to their history, culture and competent literacy skills. African Americans are usually isolated from places where these resources can be utilized, as well as the distributing of the materials to the various sites.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

## Goals 2000: Educate America Act & School to Work Act

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The President and Congress should ensure that the intent of the Goals 2000 legislation be carried out by.*

- 1. Requiring the Departments of Labor and Education to report to Congress on the level of participation of minorities, women and individuals with disabilities in the planning, implementation and participation in the programs as established under the legislation.*
- 2. That the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in the Office of Education audit all state Goals 2000 and School to Work programs to assure they are in compliance with all applicable civil rights statutes and federal regulations.*
- 3. That they take corrective action to correct and enforce any violations.*
- 4. That both the house and Senate hold hearings to examine how effective the states have been in assuring participation of women, minorities and individuals with disabilities consistent with congressional intent.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

America must strengthen its workforce if it is to successfully compete in the global economy. America faces a workforce crisis, an aging, shrinking and less skilled workforce. Americans will be trained not once, but six times over to remain in the workforce. America is moving to a two-tiered economic society separated by the have and have-nots: those that have an education and those who do not. At the bottom of the economic ladder are minorities.

Education is the key to successfully competing in the new economy, and minorities have over forty percent school drop out rate. The new workforce will come from four groups, women, minorities, immigrants and individuals with disabilities, and they should be viewed as America's greatest untapped human resource. Congress, the current and last Administrations created and passed legislation to start a national reform movement to renew our educational system to assure ALL children can achieve a "world class education" and to assure that the goals of quality and equity are an integral part of the nation's commitment to education.

Congress passed complimenting legislation: Goals 2000: Educate America Act, and School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1995, to ensure that all students would receive a world class education and that there would be a smooth transition plan from school-to-work for each student, furthermore that the legislation called for a "bottoms up" participation of all groups in planning, implementation and monitoring of each state program.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**



# Central State University

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We express our concern for the survival, financial independence and academic integrity of Central State University.*

*We urge Local and National leaders to support those institutions that they best serve African American students.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Central State University, located in Ohio, has continually served the needs of African-American students. Central State University is the only publicly supported predominantly African-American university in the state of Ohio.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1996: Express Support for Central State University
- ◆ 1997: Demand for Support for Central State University (Reaffirming 1996 Resolution)

# Saving African-American Children

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will adopt the task of saving our African-American children as one of its primary programmatic thrusts for the next decade. The NAACP will coordinate and focus its program implementations and its resources on organizing its membership, working with other organizations, and the African community at large to save our children. The NAACP reaffirms its long standing policy of promoting quality education, excellence and equity.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Children are our most precious resource and as such deserve our best effort. Our children of African-American descent are presently endangered by the emotional, social, physical and health pressures and threats of our present society. Our children are subject to systemic overt and covert discrimination. Our children represent our continuation as a group and our fixture as a people. Raising a child is the task of the broader community. It is realized that no single child can be saved unless all children are lifted and saved in unison.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1996: Programmatic Thrusts for African-American Children

# Takeover of Urban School Districts

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National NAACP will review the legality of the takeover law and State Education Agencies under-funding all school districts which results in all children receiving inadequate educational experiences.*

*The NAACP will provide its regions, states, and local branches with findings, assistance and directions on reversing the takeover laws so that citizens maintain their right to vote on school board members, budgets and plans that affect children in their local communities. The NAACP should take immediate action to stop such a dangerous trend and insist on the highest quality education possible within public schools.*

*The NAACP will provide assistance and directions on regaining control of local school districts with equal, equitable, and quality education as the priority.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) includes in its organization's constitution and by-laws the mission and commitment to improve the political, educational, social and economic status of minority groups.

State Education Agencies across the country have deliberately held back funding in school districts that have a high concentration of African and Latino-Americans. Forty State Supreme Courts across the United States repeatedly rule that State Education Agencies have not provided all school districts enough funds to reach parity with wealthy school districts for over three decades.

School districts targeted for state control have a high concentration of minority groups, most of whom are of African and Latino-American descent.

State legislators across the country allow the State Education Agencies to seize control of failing school districts rather than comply with Supreme Court orders to increase funding without placing additional burden on the citizens in poor districts.

State Legislators across the country have voted and allowed State Education Agencies to seize control of failing school districts, with high 'price tag' administrators, additional tax burden on the citizens in poor districts, and little, if any, progress/improvements. Action for State Education Agencies to seize control already took place in states that include California, Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Virginia, to name a few.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Takeover of Urban School Districts

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes implementation of regulations establishing accreditation standards that do not take into consideration these issues and concerns.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

State Education Agencies issue Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools and these regulations present numerous problems for most students and school systems to include potentially devastating disadvantages for many African Americans.

The following concerns need to be addressed and resolved prior to implementation of said regulations:

The proposal permitting schools to place students in programs leading to (a) Certificates of Program Completion, (b) General Education Development Certificates, i.e., ged's and (c) Job-entry skills should be deleted.

All students should be required to enroll in programs leading to a diploma. If students are not allowed to be physical dropouts before age 18, then they should not be intellectual dropouts.

Numerous African American children are likely to be placed in Certificate Programs. African American children will not have the guidance needed to plan ahead and realize that choosing a certificate is choosing to be a dropout.

Students who do not successfully earn a diploma should not be allowed to participate in the graduation exercises or receive a certificate of any kind.

Many school divisions are unable to purchase the materials (books, teaching aids, etc. ) and pay the salaries for additional teachers required to teach the courses in the Standards of Accreditation (soas).

For some courses (e.g., Algebra and Geometry), as many as three times as many books and teachers may be required.

Some school divisions do not currently include all of the required concepts of the Standards of Learning (sols) in their curricula. All schools should be required to demonstrate that they are teaching the concepts required by sols.

All schools whose current required courses do not include essentially all of the sols should implement the proposed sols with the 1st grade instead of the 9th grade.

What will the Virginia Board of Education do if several students at a school pass a course and fail the SOL assessment? Public school children cannot change schools in an effort to find one whose courses are of the expected quality. Will these students be traumatized by unfair treatment?

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Proposed Regulations on Standards of Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia

## Suspension and Expulsion Policies

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges local school districts to review the possible discriminatory use of suspension/expulsion policies and develop policies and procedures to eliminate discriminatory practices.*

*The Youth and College Division, with the assistance of the Education Department of the NAACP, is hereby directed to develop a comprehensive manual or training program to advise students and parents of their rights, privileges and responsibilities regarding suspensions and expulsions from institutions of learning.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Minority youth continue to be suspended or expelled from educational institutions more frequently and, in many instances, for less cause than majority students.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Youth Work: Suspensions and Expulsions
- ◆ 1997: Suspension and Expulsion Policies

## Preserve the General-Education Diploma (GED): An Alternative Route to Continuing Education

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will fully support the preservation of the GED by encouraging governmental agencies that are reviewing and upgrading this tool to make it more appropriately complement new educational goals and standards. The units of the Association will oppose any plans to dismantle the GED options. All units will implement the NAACP's Back-to-School-Stay-in-School Program, advancing more students to high school completion.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

National educational goals and standards have been proposed by educators and government agencies. The GED has effectively served as an alternate route to continuing education for many, especially people of African Ancestry. This educational route has offered expanded academic study and educational opportunities, as well as degree completion at the higher education level. The GED is under scrutiny and attack, with consideration to end approval of the GED Diploma in the State of New Jersey. The ending of this educational route will be most devastating for many who are attempting to return to study.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1997: Preserve the General-Education Diploma (GED): An Alternative Route to Continuing Education

### Charter Schools

#### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP unequivocally opposes the establishing and granting of charter schools which are not subject to the same accountability and standardization of qualifications/certification of teachers as public schools and which divert the already limited funds from public schools.*

*Each NAACP unit will convey this opposition to its federal, state, and local legislators and Boards of Education.*

*The NAACP renews its commitment and its advocacy efforts to assure that every child gets a quality education and that all units are provided information on the negative impact of charter schools on the delivery of quality public education.*

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP for over 89 years has maintained the struggle for quality public education opportunities for all children by successful legal actions as well as effective legislative measures.

Through these efforts segregated and unequally funded public schools have been outlawed.

These efforts have made it possible for great numbers of African-Americans to attain quality high school, college and post graduate education and to compete effectively in the job market and thereby raising the economic base of African-American families and communities.

Recently, many public policy makers have retreated from their commitment to quality public education for all children by proposing so called charter schools to give a few children public funds for private school education.

Millions of school age children today all across this nation are still forced to attend public schools in dangerously unsafe buildings, without proper equipment and materials, and in overcrowded classrooms.

The national focus must be to provide public schools sufficient resources to attract highly qualified teachers and administrators, capital improvements to make buildings safe and attractive as well as to guarantee each child up-to-date books, computers, and other learning materials for a 21st century education of the quality that will be required for all productive and competitive students.

The current charter school movement lacks consistent accountability, waives federal and state laws, diverts academic energy, lacks certification of classroom staff, and fails to assure the development of quality public education.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1998: Charter Schools

### Student Discipline

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP encourages state and local units to review the growth of this pattern of arresting, detaining, and/or fingerprinting children, and condemn its continued practice where appropriate.*

#### BACKGROUND:

There is a tendency nationally to arrest, detain and/or fingerprint very young students (some as young as five, six, or seven) who are alleged to have violated school or zero tolerance regulations.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1997: Student Discipline

### Unqualified Support of Public Education

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP will provide unqualified support of public education on an annual basis.*

*The NAACP will incorporate in its bi-annual Daisy Bates Summit on Education progress reports regarding students of color and require educational leaders to account for the progress or failure of their organizations in accomplishing positive achievements for students of color. The progress reports must present of empirical data on key variables linked to educational success (e.g., attendance, grade point averages, scores on standardized tests).*

*The NAACP will develop a detailed agreement with the NEA on behalf of its affiliates, the AFT and its affiliates, the National Administrators Association [NAA] and the National School Board Association [NSBA] to improve and place this country's best teachers in the schools where African American children are enrolled.*

*A conference report must be prepared for review by the NAACP President/CEO.*

*The President/CEO will forward the report and recommendations to the National Board of Directors for action.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP historically has been in strong support of public education. The NAACP has denounced movements toward privatization, that is diverting public funds to support non-public school “choices”. The NAACP has been in the forefront of the struggle for equality and equity in public education for more than ninety (90) years. The NAACP acknowledges the undisputed connection between a quality education and freedom. In spite of the NAACP’s support, the failure rates of African American and other students of color in America’s public schools remains inexcusably high in spite of a rich literature of known strategies which, if adapted, will assure the successful education of all American students. In spite of the NAACP’s support, African Americans comprise a majority of America’s prison, jail and community corrections population, most of whom lack a high school diploma.

Public education has not responded promptly or adequately enough to counter the pervasive and devastating rates of educational failure experienced by African Americans and other students of color across America. It appears that the NAACP’s unqualified support is being taken for granted by educational leaders across America. Unqualified support of public education may serve as a strong incentive to improve public education for students of color.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2000: Unqualified Support of Public Education

## **English as Second Language / Bilingual Education**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*All states must guarantee the training of English as Second Language (“ESL”). That teachers at all schools provide adequate education for all students and that appropriate steps be taken to remediate academic deficiencies identified in students who have exited from the Alternate Language Program (“ALP”).*

*All State Office of Education personnel must monitor “ESL” students for up to two years after they have left the program and inform parents in their native languages about Gifted and Talented Programs available in the school district.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

There is a growing number of persons of color entering into the United States not able to speak English, i.e., from Africa and Mexico. Schools are ensuring that English proficiency students have access to equal educational opportunities. There are no procedures in place to refer these students to “gifted” programs.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2001: English as Second Language (“ESL”) / Bilingual Education

## Head Start Program

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP joins with the National Head Start Association in opposing the transfer of Head Start's oversight, administration and review to the Department of Education since indicators of such a transfer suggest that the comprehensive character and program focus of the Head Start Program would lose its identity and effectiveness under the Department of Education.*

*The NAACP endorses the strengthening of the Head Start Program under DHHS and the NAACP further reaffirms its confidence in the DHHS which has the ability and history to move the Head Start Program forward in this New Century.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Wide disparities of inequality and inequity still exist and negatively affect many of America's children, especially children of minority status. These children are often subjected to a wide array of "at-risk" factors and circumstances. The Head Start Program is very inclusive and comprehensive, addressing such needs as early childhood education, health services, nutrition, social development, family life quality and the importance of parent involvement in the educational careers of children.

President George W. Bush has proposed moving the Head Start Program from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to the Department of Education.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2001: Civil Rights: Administrative Location of the National Head Start Program

## Implementation of the "NAACP Call for Action in Education"

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will fully implement the NAACP Call for Action in Education. This document specifically recommends and urgently seeks: (1) An outline of the steps that educational agencies will take to bring more equity and equality to education; (2) Accountability of resources; (3) Certification and incentives to retain experienced teachers; (4) Ways to increase day care and preschool programs; (5) Recruitment policies that target racial and ethnic minorities; (6) Infusion throughout education curriculum of the full and correct history of African people.*

*All NAACP State Conference Education Committees, in conjunction with political action committees, are directed to develop legislative or political empowerment initiatives to ensure education as a fundamental right in their respective states. The NAACP National Education Department in conjunction with the Washington Bureau, Office of the General Counsel and Department of Branch and Field Services shall support and advocate*



*for federal legislation and laws to ensure education as a fundamental right in America and support and advocate for full funding of effective federal education programs.*

*The NAACP directs all of its state conferences and local units within the next twelve months, to build parent involvement and partnerships with local community based organizations, fraternal entities, churches, neighborhood associations, and other local groups, for the purpose of effecting the principles of the “Call for Action in Education” within local schools. All units of the NAACP shall closely monitor the response to the NAACP Call for Action in Education.*

*As part of the 2001 National Day of Education, on November 16, 2001, the education committees of all units shall present to the appropriate education entity in its their respective jurisdiction, a “Call for Action” requesting the development of a specific equity plan by March 2002 to ensure equity and to close the achievement gap in the American educational system. Each NAACP department or unit shall report to the appropriate education entity as follows: The National Education Department shall report to the U.S. President and Secretary of Education. The State Conference Education Committee shall report to the Governor and State Superintendent. The Branch Education Committee shall report to the School Board and Superintendent and the College Chapter Education Committee shall report to the Board of Trustees and President. The College Chapter “Call to Action” shall address issues related to minority recruitment, retention and graduation. All NAACP Youth Councils shall present to its state legislative and local school boards for passage, a “Student Education Bill of Rights. ” The progress of the submitted equity plan shall be re-evaluated by the education committee and political action committee on each National Day of Education.*

*The following tasks must be completed:*

- By September 2002, all branch education committees shall make quarterly arrangements to enter its local schools to perform “site visits” observing and monitoring the resources and quality of education provided to the students.*
- By August 2002, each State Conference Education Committee shall initiate a scheduled meeting of all education chairpersons in their respective States.*
- By January 2003, Education Committees of all NAACP units shall implement an “Education Equity Report Card” designed by the NAACP Education Department and Education Committee of the Board of Directors.*
- By March 2003, all data collected from the implementation of the State, County, College/University Education Equity Report Cards should be forwarded to the NAACP Education Department.*
- By May 2004, during the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, the National Education Department shall use the aforementioned data to produce a report on the “State of Education for Black Students in America.”*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP endorsed the NAACP Call for Action in Education in 2001. This document has been distributed to NAACP units and to education agencies nationwide. There is a need to ensure that all units are adhering to the mandate.

There is presently no entity effectively requiring federal and state legislatures and school boards to ensure that students have available to them the necessary and equitable resources in order to hold them accountable in the classroom.

The objective of the NAACP's education advocacy agenda is to prevent racial discrimination in education programs and services by promoting an equal education opportunity agenda.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2002: Implementation of the "NAACP Call for Action in Education"
- ◆ 2006: Reaffirming Commitment to Quality Education, Proactive Advocacy, and Equitable Public School Funding
- ◆ 2006: NAACP Calls for Equity in Public Education

## **Student Transfers under NCLB**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP hereby issues a "Call for Monitoring" procedure for all NAACP units, whereby the status of Requests for Student Transfers, as provided by the Federal "No Child Left Behind Act," will be periodically received, logged, monitored and reported to the State Conference Education Committee for review, assessment and approved advocacy action. In turn, the state conference will report to the Regional Office and NAACP Education Department a summary of the data. The NAACP Education Department shall develop an appropriate instrument for collecting, recording and reporting this information. Local, state and national publicity shall be prepared and circulated by appropriate NAACP units, regarding this initiative to school boards, departments of education and parent affiliations.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Quality education is a major civil right which has been historically advocated by the NAACP.

Schools across the country have been identified and classified as "In Need of Improvement," with fewer than half the students performing satisfactorily.

Such data for students has been recently published in many school districts.

The Federal or United States Government also recently issued a policy insisting on an option for transfers from these failing districts to a better one, regardless of whether the district has space.

Under the new federal education law, parents have a right to demand that their children be transferred to another school.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: A Call for Monitoring Requests for Student Transfers

## Addressing Military Disclosure for High School Students

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the Department of Education to ensure that all schools abide strictly by the laws and regulations limiting or prohibiting disclosure of information concerning high school students to the U.S. military recruiters.*

*Schools must promptly notify parents whenever they send the name of a student to the Department of Defense. Local and state NAACP units must implement an awareness program teaching families (including legal guardians and/or whomever is eligible to act) how to have their students opt out of the program.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Public high school students have expressed concerns that public school systems might be forced under the threat of sanction or loss of federal funding to release personal information to U.S. Military recruiters without proper authorization from students or their parents.

Applicable laws and regulations give students the right to opt-out from disclosure of information to military recruiters.

Laws and regulations provide that for those students who do not opt-out, the only information that may be disclosed to military recruiters is the student's name, address and listed phone number.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2006: Addressing Military Disclosure for High School Students

## Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in Crisis

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP must advocate for comparable funding and support through state governments for state-sponsored, public HBCUs as to other institutions of higher education in their respective states.*

*The NAACP shall undertake every effort to investigate and take appropriate action(s), including possible litigation, to address violations of the law by states and/or the federal government with respect to state public higher education desegregation plans as they impact the viability of State HBCUs and, consequently, the interests of the Association, its affiliates, and members.*

*The NAACP will aggressively support and promote the campaign of HBCUs to encourage alumni and friends to contribute to the financial well being of HBCUs.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The HBCUs are in crisis. They are facing multi-layered challenges, including, but not limited to severe financial stress, inconsistent alumni support, low faculty salaries, false accusations of reverse discrimination, crippling accreditation challenges and “faculty raiding” by white universities.

During the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, many HBCUs were established by religious organizations, mutual aid societies and land grants. HBCUs are consistently deprived of equal educational resources. Most HBCUs remain racially segregated with crumbling facilities and inadequate budgets compared with white institutions. HBCUs’ lack of adequate libraries, scientific and research equipment, and facilities ability handicaps their ability to remain viable in this new 21<sup>st</sup> Century. HBCUs graduate a substantial proportion of all African American college students, including those receiving graduate and professional degrees in the fields of engineering, law and medicine. Despite promises by state and federal governments to assist HBCUs financially via grants and special funding initiatives, the funding levels are woefully inadequate, representing only a tiny fraction of all higher education dollars. The U.S. Department of Education is not fulfilling its statutory duties to enforce Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, after noting clear and consistent violations by states with respect to publicly supported HBCUs.

- ◆ 2006: Civil Rights: Public Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in Crisis

## **Legislation from Previous Sessions of Congress**

### **POLICIES:**

*The NAACP denounces President Ford’s “School Desegregation Standards and Assistance Act of 1976” (S-3618).*

*The NAACP calls upon all of its units to urge their Congressmen to vote against the Packwood-Moynihan plan as it is now written.*

*The NAACP opposes the creation of a separate Department of Education because it is convinced that such a department will be controlled by professional educators and administrators who will disregard parental and citizen input into our education systems.*

*The NAACP directs its Washington Bureau to provide the branches with the necessary information on “Smart Start” (S. 2270) and vigorously work for its passage.*

*The NAACP calls upon the President of the United States and Congress in their 2003 proposed re-authorization process to continue with the Secretary of DHHS as the official responsible for managing and administering the Head Start program. To that end, the NAACP encourages all its units to contact their members of Congress and tell them “Not to move Head Start to the Department of Education” and not to make Head Start a part of the block grant process.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Emergency Resolution on The School Desegregation Standards and Assistance Act of 1976

- ◆ 1978: Packwood-Moynihan Tuition Tax Credit Legislation
  - ◆ 1979: Separate Department of Education (HR2444 and S210)
  - ◆ 1988: Smart: The Community Collaborative for Early Childhood Development Act of 1988
  - ◆ 1989: Early Childhood / Kindergarten (Reaffirming 1988 Resolution)
- 2002: Calling Upon the President of the United States to Leave Head Start in the Department of Health and Human Services

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Environmental Affairs

## Wilderness Resources

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP supports endeavors to set aside more land, areas to be designated as wilderness areas, and urge Congress to expand wilderness areas.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Wilderness Resources

## Energy and Conservation Committee

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The Youth and College Division calls upon the NAACP Board of Directors to create a special Energy and Conservation Committee comprised of youth and adult members to make a study of the future jobs, vocational, economical and educational opportunities that could benefit black youth in the field of energy.*

*The state, youth and adult NAACP conferences will monitor the development of states' industries and programs to assess the employment and economic benefits of the black communities.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Energy and Conservation Committee

## Energy

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the President, and upon the government agencies involved with energy, to devise means such as a cost ceiling or fuel stamps to assist the poor, and*

*The NAACP will appoint a small committee of specially trained persons, e.g., the Association of Blacks in Energy, to prepare recommendations and respond to proposals that may be advanced regarding energy matters, and*

*The NAACP will convene an energy conference of persons with state and Federal regulatory agencies, policy-level persons with utility companies, and economists to (1) analyze the effect of the energy plan upon the poor, (2) study particularly the economies involved, including new employment opportunities which will become available, (3) propose actions by the NAACP, (4) make recommendations to the President and the several government agencies, and (5) seek financial assistance front business, industry and foundations.*

*We call upon all branches, youth councils and college chapters and our National Headquarters to monitor all branches of government for the express purpose of assuring that these municipalities, counties, states or the national administration not use the concept of energy as a vehicle either to depress the state of the American economy as to impose a further economic burden upon the poor and those who live on limited and fixed incomes in this nation. Prior to governmental bodies and officials deciding public policy on energy matters, a socio-economic impact assessment must be conducted to ascertain how those decisions will uniquely affect the black community. This assessment should specifically address the impact of any proposed policy on energy matters in the area of employment, health, the environment, housing, transportation, education and the general quality of life of black and other disadvantaged people of the United States. The public must be aware of the detailed results of the assessment via communication of this information utilizing any and all aspects of the media.*

*The branches are instructed to evaluate the impact of the energy crisis and policy on the black community in its area and report it to the Energy Committee.*

#### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Energy
- ◆ 1978: Energy
- ◆ 1978: Energy Policy and Socio-Economic Input Assessment

## **Affirmative Action in the Department of Energy**

#### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The Department of Energy must immediately, vigorously implement its affirmative action program with a budget to recruit blacks for the positions on all levels of that department.*

#### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Energy and Employment

## **Environmental Racism**

#### **POLICY SUMMARY:**



*The NAACP recognizes environmental injustice as the result of discriminatory environmental decision-making, as well as historical racial segregation, discriminatory zoning and land use, and unequal treatment, which together explain why race, rather than income, determines where toxic facilities are sited and whether environmental laws are enforced. The NAACP declares that the right to live in a safe and healthy environment is a civil right that no person should have to sacrifice for economic security or employment. The NAACP opposes the recent backlash in the Federal courts that limits a person's right to seek legal redress for civil rights violations based on environmental disparities.*

*The NAACP calls upon elected officials to equitably enforce existing legislation and regulations to carry out the Clean Air and Water Acts, and the identification and cleanup of environmentally hazardous conditions. The NAACP opposes legislation to cut funds for environmental protection, and will work to assist minority communities to be aware of and obtain all relief available under existing laws. The NAACP supports the swift enactment of federal legislation which seeks to address these concerns.*

*The NAACP calls upon local city and state officials to cease the practice of resolving local residential hazardous conditions by declaring the neighborhood as non-residential rather than correcting the hazardous condition that negatively affects the health of residents.*

*The NAACP encourages its local and state units to initiate community-based ecological education activities and programs, such as community forums, informational displays in schools, churches, libraries, neighborhood centers to better inform black Americans of environmental issues that disproportionately impact on black communities.*

*Hazardous wastes, environmental protection, cleanup, protection for workers, and other environmental concerns in black communities will be made a priority issue for workshops during State, Regional and National NAACP Conferences, pointing out that the environmental rights of many black communities are not protected.*

*The NAACP calls upon its state and local branches to examine local toxic waste disposal laws and establish a task force and charge it to consider the impacts, actual and potential, of various toxic waste disposal scenarios on minority populations. Said task force will submit its report to the 1984 Convention.*

*The NAACP supports the enactment of specific legislation to reverse the inequities of environmental health.*

*The NAACP calls on each level of government to:*

- 1. Prevent childhood lead poisoning,*
- 2. Declare a moratorium on all permeable facilities sited in or near African American communities until the results of a federal environmental impact statement process is concluded,*
- 3. Train and hire a proportionate number of culturally competent environmental and public health workers and support them in program to research and continually monitor the environmental quality in and around African American communities,*
- 4. Work in cooperation with the NAACP and community based organizations to eradicate the general climate of drug abuse and violence and replace it with a more healthful environment for the pursuit of productive growth and development for African American children,*
- 5. Involve African American owned/operated networks/systems of care and advocacy to abate environmental hazards, improve environmental quality and improve the health status of African American families and communities.*

*The NAACP:*

1. *Supports the enactment of an Environmental Justice Act as one step in achieving the aims of this resolution,*
2. *Supports the continued generation of race and ethnic based data on the effects of multi-media pollution,*
3. *Supports efforts to reduce workplace exposure to toxic materials through improvements in the enforcement of workplace safety rules at the local, state and Federal level,*
4. *Encourages all Branches to communicate information and data on community exposures to lead, pesticides, radon and other environmental and health hazards,*

## **Background:**

All people have a right to a safe, healthful and productive environment preserved by each level of government. Environmental hazards in the home, at work and at play pose significant risks to the health of African-Americans. The residence of many of this nation's black communities have been and continue to be beset by human suffering, including overcrowding, pollution, poor health, and stress. Health in the inner city is under siege from smog, lead, asbestos, and older housing; therefore, blacks are likely to suffer more from environmental hazards than any other group of Americans.

Between 1976 and 1980, of all black infants under the age of three that were tested, more than half had blood lead levels higher than the Center for Disease Control's proposed standards. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, black people, particularly urban boys, are nearly three times more likely to die of asthma than whites. The number of black asthma deaths per 100,000 has jumped from 1 to 2.9 since 1986, an increase directly attributed to increased inner-city air pollution. According to a study released by the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice in 1989, more than 15 million black Americans (three out of every five) live in communities with one or more uncontrolled toxic waste sites. Three out of the five largest commercial hazardous waste landfills in the United States which account for 40 percent of the total estimated commercial landfill capacity in the nation are located in predominantly black communities. Therefore, black Americans are often more likely to be the unknowing victims of exposure to such substances.

The disparity in enforcement of toxic waste laws occurs by race alone, without regard to income. The existing legal framework does not provide adequate remedies to address racial disparities in exposure to potentially harmful pollutants, or to collect data necessary to analyze such disparities. Federal law does not require the government to routinely collect and analyze environmental and health data by ethnicity, race and income or to ensure equitable and just application implementation and enforcement of environmental laws.

Minorities tend to have the highest percentage of deaths resulting from pollution and environmental hazards. The problem continues to increase as opposed to being reduced or eliminated due to the failure of public officials to enforce existing regulations. There is a recent trend and a growing national pattern to resolve the problem by changing the local neighborhood, encouraging local residents to relocate or declaring the areas as non-residential as opposed to removal or correction of the hazardous conditions and enforcing zoning laws, thus, denying these citizens the full enjoyment of the property rights and equitable protection of the law.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1983: Health and Welfare: Environmental Protection
- ◆ 1990: Health and Welfare: The Environment and Black Communities

- ◆ 1996: Environmental Racism
- ◆ 1998: Health and Welfare: Environmental Health
- ◆ 2000: Regarding Environmental Racism (Reaffirming 1996 Resolution)
- ◆ 2001: Environmental Justice and the African-American Community (Reaffirming 1993 and 1983 Resolutions)
- ◆ 2001: Reaffirming the 2000 Resolution on Environmental Racism
- ◆ 2001: Reaffirming the 1993 Resolution in Support of Environmental Justice
- ◆ 2001: Reaffirming the 1983 Resolution on Environmental Protection
- ◆ 2002: Environmental Justice (Reaffirming 1993 policy on Environmental Health)

## NAACP Opposes “Jobs versus Environment” Myth

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP opposes any corporate strategy that promises jobs to communities of color to coerce residents to accept a polluting industry in their neighborhood. The NAACP opposes any corporate strategy that fabricates a threat of unemployment on workers of color as a weapon to resist environmental regulation. The NAACP calls upon all units to immediately demand that environmentally regulated industries stop using the “jobs versus environment” myth in their communities. The NAACP calls upon all units to demand that environmentally regulated industries fulfill their outstanding promise of job opportunities to communities. The NAACP calls upon all units to continue to advocate through direct action, legislation, litigation and pre-approved coalitions against environmental racism.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

2003: NAACP Opposes “Jobs versus Environment” Myth

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Health

## Survival of Medical Schools

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP directs private, public and governmental bodies to support these institutions both financially and morally, not only for their survival but also for their growth and productivity.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Survival of Medical Schools

## Nursing

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP emphasizes the need for and supports all programs which increase the opportunities for training in the nursing field.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Nursing

## National Medical Association and National Dental Association

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will continue to support the NMA and the NDA, and urge the the black health professionals in these associations to take a more active role in the NAACP.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: NMA-NDA

## Urban Life

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges:*

- 1. Expose youth to cultural programs;*
- 2. Encourage the use of vital community agencies and services such as libraries, health care centers and youth and community centers;*
- 3. Seek to have youth appointed to various boards of community agencies;*
- 4. Encourage youth to take advantage of special training and educational programs;*
- 5. Immediately endorse and wholeheartedly support the war on poverty.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Urban Life

## **Medical Planning and Political Activity**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP national staff is directed to develop a directory of health-related boards, foundations, institutions, federal and state programs and training institution governing bodies.*

*This directory is to be distributed to the NAACP adult and youth and college chapters and they are encouraged to carefully evaluate minority representation on these bodies in their area.*

*All NAACP units and the National Board are encouraged to work for the appointment to all the aforementioned bodies blacks who are knowledgeable of and sensitive to the health needs of minority citizens in this country.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Medical Planning and Political Activity

## **Health Care**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its position that every American deserves access to the excellent healthcare that our country provides to the wealthy and federal officials. The NAACP calls upon the President and the Congress to enact into law a single-payer, publicly-administered health care program for all the nation's residents. All the benefits of such a comprehensive program must be made available without regard to family or personal income. The NAACP will critique all proposed health care legislation and review all existing health care delivery laws to the end that the thrust of such laws should be developed and made to provide the mechanism whereby all minority citizens, within the province of affordable cost, may be the recipient of unfettered, total quality health care. The same national plan must include funding for research to combat dread scourges such as AIDS and the current epidemic of a new and more virulent strain of tuberculosis.*

*The NAACP supports the implementation of a National Health Program by the Congress of the U.S., which will provide comprehensive health care coverage and will ensure access to quality health care to all citizens and residents of the U.S., regardless of race, class, gender. The health benefits will include but not be limited to the provision of the access to acute, rehabilitative, chronic, long-term, and home care, mental health and dental care, prescription drugs and medical supplies, and preventive and public health measures. The NAACP calls for an in-depth study be instituted by the Congress of the United States to provide for a fair and just compensation to health providers.*

*All local NAACP units are directed to collaborate with local medical care centers and treatment facilities to develop patient education programs and to promote enhanced recruitment and retention of African American health care providers. The NAACP promotes culturally appropriate education programs to improve minority knowledge of how to access care and improve the ability to participate in clinical-decision making.*

*The NAACP supports the Institute of Medicine's recommendation to improve the quality of care for racial and ethnic minorities by promoting the increase of the proportion of underrepresented U.S. racial and ethnic minorities among health professionals. The NAACP promotes cross-cultural curricula to be integrated into the training of future healthcare provider and practical, care-based, rigorously evaluated training should persist through practitioner continuing education programs.*

*The NAACP charges the Health Committee to investigate and bring to the attention of the organization the findings relating to the deterioration and quality of health care for minorities, and of the preparation of health-related professionals, and prepare recommendations to guide the NAACP toward actions which will bring correctives in these areas. The NAACP urges health plans, federal and state payers to collect, report and monitor patient care data as a means to assess progress in eliminating disparities, to evaluate intervention efforts, and to assess potential civil rights violations. The NAACP calls on all state and federal agencies with oversight for managed health care be compelled to act now in order to eradicate these discriminatory practices.*

*The President and the Congress are urged to pass legislation that will guarantee "The Patients Right to Know" specific details of federal funds expended for the payment of individual's health care expenses.*

*The NAACP will investigate the health care treatment of African Americans and other people of color incarcerated within state and federal correctional institutions, and will advocate for sufficient and adequate health care services for all persons incarcerated within state and federal correctional institutions.*

*The NAACP will establish a task force to study, investigate, lobby, testify, prepare position papers and actively participate in legislation to provide national health care that would ensure that African Americans shall have appropriate health care regardless of their health insurance status. The*

*task force shall work with the appropriate federal agencies/entities in an attempt to eliminate any discrimination in health care access.*

*The NAACP joins with Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP) and NABP in support of H.R. 676, the US National Health Institute Act, introduced by Congressman John Conyers, Detroit Michigan.*

*The NAACP hereby goes on record as supporting:*

- 1. Choice of physicians;*
- 2. High-quality, certified and approved neighborhood clinics;*
- 3. The concept that, where possible, neighborhood clinics should be under the auspices of recognized teaching institutions and hospitals or closely affiliated therewith;*
- 4. Rural Health initiative programs;*
- 5. Access to efficacious medicines;*
- 6. Preventative medicine, which ideally would include colonoscopies, mammograms, eye exams, physical exams, immunizations, smoking cessation, obesity treatment and substance abuse care;*
- 7. The training and utilization of paramedics;*
- 8. The equalization and parity of Medicare and Medicaid benefits to both provider and consumers in all states.*
- 9. Mental and dental healthcare coverage with mental health on parity with medical coverage.*
- 10. Coverage, to include a process for racial and ethnic data collection to better determine the effectiveness of healthcare coverage and progress on ending health disparities.*

*All units of the NAACP are directed to:*

- 1. Inform and disseminate information regarding the National Health Corp., the U.S.P.H.S., the National Service Medical School;*
- 2. Inform blacks about the health benefits of fishermen and those involved in the navigation, care and preservation of vessels registered under the Maritime Service through the U.S.P.H.S. hospitals, contract physicians and outpatient clinics;*
- 3. Advocate the total participation in and monitoring of state health system agencies and their subsidiaries;*
- 4. Seek to have blacks appointed to State Boards of Health.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The United States Congress authorized the study of disparities in the health care treatment system. The study was undertaken by the National Institute of Medicines and found that minorities were receiving substandard health care in comparison the comparable white citizens. These disparities existed regardless of income or insurance coverage. The overwhelming evidence suggested by the study demonstrated that African-Americans received substandard health care, and this substandard health care has led to higher death rates for African Americans in the categories of HIV/AIDS, cancer and heart disease.

Upwards of 45 million Americans do not have any form of health insurance coverage, public or private, 40 percent of them children, nearly 36 million people are underinsured, and 55 percent of poor or near-poor African-Americans and 63 percent of Hispanics are uninsured. Children of low income families and millions of others need medical attention and frequently are forced to go without health care because of their inability to pay.



Children are negatively affected by the crisis in health care physically, mentally, emotionally and academically as the learning ability of children whose quality of life has been severely compromised.

Among Western industrialized nations, only the U.S. and South Africa lack a National Health Program that makes access to health care a basic right for all. Of all industrialized nations the U.S. spends the least public funds in the health sector (4.5% of the GNP as compared with 8.8% for Sweden, 8% for West Germany, 6.6% for France, and 6.2% for Canada). Of all industrialized nations, the U.S. spends most on defense and least on health. Moreover, health statistics show the consequences of these gaps.

State and federal correctional institutions in the United States have a constitutional obligation to adhere to the fundamental tenants of human rights with regards to the prison population by providing adequate health care and treatment services. African Americans and other people of color, while incarcerated, suffer disproportionately from diseases, such as Hepatitis-C, Diabetes and kidney disease.

More and more employers are reducing or eliminating dependant health care coverage for active workers and retirees, dropping health care coverage entirely, and shifting health care costs to employees. Millions of children are without insurance and those that do have health insurance are finding rising premiums, co-payments and deductibles more and more unaffordable.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Health Care Delivery
- ◆ 1978: Health Potpourri
- ◆ 1981: Health Care
- ◆ 1991: National Health Care
- ◆ 1992: National Health Care
- ◆ 1993: Health Care
- ◆ 1995: Health Care Reform: Managed Health Care
- ◆ 1997: Health Care
- ◆ 2002: Equity in Health Care and Safety
- ◆ 2002: Reaffirming the 1992 Policy on National Health Care
- ◆ 2003: Fundamental Human Right to Quality Healthcare
- ◆ 2003: Expressing Concern for the Disparate Health Care Treatment Afforded to African Americans (Reaffirming 2002 Resolution on Equity in Health Care and Safety)
- ◆ 2003: Quality Health Care for All
- ◆ 2003: Prison Health Care

- ◆ 2004: Regarding Health Care for All (Universal Health Care)
- ◆ 2006: Expressing Concern for the Disparate Health Care Treatment Afforded to African Americans (Reaffirming 2003 Policy)
- ◆ 2006: Regarding Health Care for All (Universal Health Care) (Reaffirming 2004 Policy)

## National Black Congress on Health

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP expresses its congratulations to these organizations for sponsoring a National Black Congress on Health and Law and urge the NAACP National Office to have appropriate persons attend and participate in it.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: National Black Congress on Health

## Staffing Primary Health Centers

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP units, with necessary assistance of the staff, insist that those primary health care centers be required to fill their staff positions such a manner as to reflect the ethnic population of the redeveloped area as it existed before redevelopment.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Staffing of Primary Health Centers

## Black Infant Mortality

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes cuts and other measures which limit access to Health and Nutrition programs such as WIC (the special supplement food programs for women, infants and children), the child nutrition programs, Maternal and Child Health, Primary Health Care, Medicaid, and the Food Stamp programs.*

*The NAACP seeks ways and means to participate in efforts to identify, research and promote activities to resolve this critical problem.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1983: Black Infant Mortality

### Sales of Human Organs

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP serves as the nation's conscience and brings about public awareness of the possible inequities and consequences of the unregulated sale of human organs.*

*The NAACP keep abreast of developments to inform the public of any and all legislation introduced and/or policy adopted affecting the issue of human organ sale regulation.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1984: Organ Donation

### HIV / AIDS

#### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls for eliminating racial disparities in our Nation's approach to dealing with the AIDS epidemic in order to abolish the disproportionate incidences and deaths of African American and Latino communities. The NAACP further calls for government and private sources to alleviate the dearth of funding for minority HIV/AIDS programs. The NAACP calls on the Congress and the Administration to enact and sign laws to fund AIDS research and to provide public financial assistance to AIDS patients in need of financial help.*

*The NAACP issues a national call to action to the entire African American community on the AIDS epidemic in Black America. The NAACP will send delegates to attend the bi-annual AIDS conference. The NAACP will provide HIV testing and education at each of the seven regional Civil Rights Advocacy Training Institutes and the Annual Convention. The NAACP, through its constituent units, will embark on an educational campaign to ensure that members of the black community receive accurate information about AIDS and how it is transmitted.*

*The NAACP calls for AIDS to be treated as an entity without social stigma or implications. The NAACP and branches must assist in eliminating stereotypical myths surrounding AIDS; monitor AIDS services for fairness of distribution; and ensure that prevention and quality treatment programs are available to all, and that the testing of new drugs are open to all and fairly utilized by all. The NAACP will include HIV/AIDS content in existing communication vehicles, provide HIV/AIDS training to members, and include HIV/AIDS awareness in unit programming elements.*

*The NAACP will utilize its network of more than 500,000 members in 2,200 Units across the United States, Japan and Germany to work with organizations providing direct assistance in Africa to support efforts to provide comprehensive services to prevent the spread of HIV and the care and treatment for those persons already infected with the AIDS virus and their children. Also, the NAACP will provide support for the general health infrastructure on the African continent. The NAACP's Health Committee will establish a working committee to advise the NAACP on the HIV-AIDS crisis in Africa and will include members of the Constituency for Africa, Healthcare International, and the Center for Disease Control. The NAACP will use its vast network to advocate for the expansion of American technical and monetary support for strategies to combat HIV-AIDS in Africa and will place this problem at the top of the U.S. agenda with Africa. The NAACP will work to educate its membership and the American public about Africa and about the HIV-AIDS crisis on the continent by collaborating with organizations such as the Constituency for Africa, the Center for Disease Control and professionals in all fields to hold seminars, workshops, town hall meetings and other educational activities.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

HIV/AIDS in the African-American community has been declared a state of emergency by the NAACP and several governmental agencies including the Congressional Black Caucus. The Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) disease is spreading so rapidly that it is reaching epidemic proportions, and there is no known cure. Between 1 and 4 million Americans are estimated to be carrying the AIDS killer virus.

The rate of HIV infections has dropped sharply among whites, while black Americans increasingly bear the brunt of the AIDS epidemic due to social, economic and political disparities and to a lack of education about the disease. African-American communities and civil rights leaders must help increase AIDS awareness.

Among female AIDS cases, heterosexual sex has surpassed drug infection as the most common route of transmission, and black women make up approximately 60 percent of all new AIDS cases reported among U.S. women, and have an overall case rate sixteen (16) times that of their white counterparts. Two-thirds of the new cases of pediatric AIDS striking children under thirteen (13) are black children.

The cost of treating AIDS patients is astronomical and many patients have insufficient financial resources to pay the cost. Government funds to help minorities with AIDS prevention and treatment should be increased substantially.

The NAACP deems the HIV-AIDS crisis in Africa so disturbing as to declare an emergency. The continent of Africa is now being ravaged by the overwhelming impact and burden of HIV-AIDS, the region where seventy percent (70%) of the new cases worldwide in 1998 occurred; where eighty-three percent (83%) of all AIDS deaths have occurred; where among children under fifteen (15) years of age Africa's share of new 1998 infections was nine out of ten; where ninety-five percent (95%) of all AIDS orphans worldwide now reside; where in some countries, thirty percent (30%) of all working adults now have AIDS or carry the virus. American support for Africa generally and support for combating the growing menace of HIV-AIDS on the continent has been paltry and non responsive.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: AIDS
- ◆ 1998: HIV/AIDS

- ◆ 1999: HIV / AIDS
- ◆ 1999: HIV / AIDS in Africa
- ◆ 2006: National Call to Action to End the AIDS Epidemic in the African American Community
- ◆ 2006: HIV / AIDS (Reaffirm 1999 Policy )
- ◆ 2006: HIV / AIDS in Africa (Reaffirm 1999 Policy )

## Teenage Pregnancy

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*NAACP units actively encourage parent-child communications about sex education and the responsibilities of parenthood.*

*NAACP units call on the media to disseminate information on sex education and parenthood targeted to reach and be understood by teenage girls and boys.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1987: Teenage Pregnancy

## Social Security “Notch System”

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls on the Congress to correct the unfairness accorded to people born between 1917 and 1921 as a result of the “notch system”.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1987: Social Security “Notch System”

## DNA Testing

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP, through its Health Committee, monitor the usages and results of DNA testing and its impact on people of color. The NAACP Health Committee will become involved in developing the protocols, ethical standards for usage of DNA testing, and in formulating public policy. The*

*NAACP will also monitor the use of public money for DNA research and testing.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1994: DNA Testing

## **Lead Poison Screening**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP branches must stress to their members the necessity of lead screening,*

*The NAACP agrees to work with the Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatricians in trying to rid our nation of this serious threat to the health, welfare and progress of our children.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1996: Lead Poison Screening

## **Prostate Cancer**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP adopts the eradication of Prostate Cancer as a major initiative of its National Health Program and joins with the National Prostate Cancer Coalition (NPCC) and its mission: elimination of Prostate Cancer as a disease of serious concern for men and their families.*

*Every NAACP unit will urge all its members to sign the petition urging the United States Government to provide sufficient funding and make Prostate Cancer a National Health Priority.*

*The NAACP Washington Bureau will make every member of Congress aware of the NAACP's position on this issue.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Prostate Cancer

## **Tobacco Use**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the enactment of specific legislation to reverse the inequities of tobacco's effects on the African American community.*

*The NAACP supports a tobacco settlement that:*

- 1. Ensures that minorities must receive their fair share of funds, in proportion to their prevalence in the general population or in the smoking population (whichever is higher). This fair share concept must apply to tobacco funds distributed to all Health and Human Service (HHS) agencies,*
- 2. Contributes to the strengthening of minority institutions of higher learning, national associations, regional state and community-based organizations like the NAACP that foster minority health,*
- 3. Has legislative provisions requiring that these organizations are proportionately involved in counter-advertising, prevention, cessation and research, includes organizations that are currently involved in public health and tobacco-related programs as well as organizations newly established or with newly established programs to address tobacco related issues.*

*The NAACP calls on each level of government to:*

- 1. Include substantial participation of minorities in tobacco related research,*
- 2. Collect baseline data for each racial and ethnic group to determine the current level of hhs support for minority programs and to facilitate monitoring and periodic reporting on progress,*
- 3. Use look-back provisions based on data collected and analyzed by race, ethnicity and gender,*
- 4. Involve minority researchers, organizationally and individually, in proportion to their prevalence in either the smoking or general population.*
- 5. Provide adequate support for communities impacted by tobacco legislation including farmers, farm workers, tobacco insert employees and for international tobacco control initiatives.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

1. 1998: Tobacco in the African American Community

## **Sickle Cell Anemia**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP demands the full restoration of funding for sickle cell research and care allocated to the ten Sickle Cell Centers across the nation by the NIH to the level which was obtained during the previous five-year period, in effect requiring an increase of twenty-five percent.*

*All Members of both Houses of Congress must be prevailed upon both by the Washington Bureau of the NAACP, other staff resources, and each of our branches and chapters to insist upon restoring the cuts to the Sickle Cell Centers by the NIH, as well as increasing the NIH's overall allocations annually to sickle cell research and care.*

*Branches located in the ten sites where the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Centers are also located are directed to make a special effort to obtain Congressional and other public support for the restoration of the research and care funds for the sickle cell disease.*

*The NAACP Health Committee is specifically charged with monitoring all matters relating to the federal funding research and care for sickle cell disease by the NIH and other federally-supported agencies and institutions with assistance by the NAACP Washington Bureau.*

*The NAACP's media staff will convey to the mass media, and especially to the media directed at African Americans, the status of funds designated for sickle cell research and care by NIH and that the NAACP demands the restoration of those funds which were cut, as well as a general increase in future budgets of total funds allocated for sickle research and care.*

*The NAACP Board of Directors will instruct its Washington Bureau and headquarters staff to press the U.S. Congress and the National Institutes of Health to devise, support and implement a nationwide educational and outreach program directed to African Americans and those other sub-groups afflicted by sickle cell disease in order to reduce the mathematical possibilities of the spread of the disease by urging individuals to seek testing for the trait prior to marriage.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: Research and Care for Sickle Cell Disease

## **Annual Blood Drive**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP branches are directed to collaborate with their local blood service and sponsor an annual blood drive to encourage African American and all other ethnic donors to donate every two-to-three months.*

*Guidelines will be drawn for distribution to the NAACP Branches' Health Committee for implementation for a successful blood drive at regional, state and national conferences.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2000: Annual Blood Drive



## Lupus

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP branches in collaboration with community lupus foundation chapters will coordinate awareness and fundraising programs for Lupus research and outreach programs.*

*The NAACP will monitor the fair and equitable funds appropriated for the research and treatment of this disease which kills our children of an earlier age.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2001: Equitable Funding and Awareness for Lupus Research

## Ritalin

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP joins with the National Medical Association (NMA) to review existing federal and state regulations relating to the use of Ritalin and other behavioral modification drugs.*

*The NAACP calls upon the United States Congress, federal, state and local agencies to revise regulations to prevent placing children on Ritalin or similar behavior modification drugs in the absence of professional, medical or psychiatric diagnosis.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2001: Resolution in Support of Halting the Use of Ritalin

## Mental Health

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP vigorously supports the legislative issue that is being pursued by advocates for the mentally ill throughout our Nation.*

*The NAACP Washington Bureau adds its “priority support” to the Legislative Bill H. Res. 14 in the 107th Congress that was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2001: Expressing the Concern of Mental Health with Regard to How it Affects African-Americans' Treatment, Diagnosis, Crisis Intervention and Support of Legislation at all Levels of Government

## Mercury Dental Fillings

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls for:*

- 1. Disclosure to all dental patients (a) that the main material in so-called silver fillings is mercury (not silver), (b) that mercury is toxic, and (c) that such fillings constitute a hazardous waste when removed.*
- 2. A ban on mercury-containing dental fillings being placed in young children, pregnant women, or nursing mothers.*
- 3. All Americans, including families on Medicaid and/or dental insurance plans be given a choice of dental fillings, including the right to choose alternatives to mercury fillings.*
- 4. The United States Congress to give immediate consideration to the Watson-Burton Bill to phase out all mercury in dentistry within five years.*
- 5. State Legislatures to give immediate consideration to legislation comparable to the Watson-Burton Bill.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2002: Mercury Dental Fillings

## Infant Safety Seat Initiative

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP supports the recognition of increased use of infant and child automobile vehicle safety devices as a health and safety issue. The NAACP will facilitate the development of program models and resources to promote the implementation of infant car seat distributions and safety belt education nationwide to prevent needless deaths and injuries, by affirming a credible approach with proven successful methodologies that prioritizes the increased use of safety belts, infant car seats and booster seats among African-Americans as a health and safety issue.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

## Health Screening for Individuals Entering and Exiting Prison

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges on the federal, state and local levels for the design of a health program that will require that every person convicted and committed to any adult or juvenile correctional institution, local jail or state or federal prison be given a health screening to include screening for communicable and infectious diseases when entering and 7–14 days prior to being released from the facility. The NAACP directs the Chief Medical Officer to notify the inmate within 7 days upon receiving positive results and that those inmates testing positive be required to receive treatment as part of his or her sentence, probation or parole.*

*The NAACP calls for development and implementation of education programs to make the public and prison population aware of the necessity of AIDS/HIV/Hepatitis-C testing of all persons entering and being released from prison. These programs shall receive funding to significantly reduce and/or eliminate incidences of AIDS/HIV/Hepatitis-C. All state and federal penal institutions within the United States shall establish inmate advisory committees whose mission is to internally educate and support the aforementioned education and testing programs.*

*The prisoner's right to privacy regarding test results should be protected and test results not disclosed.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

In America the AIDS/HIV/Hepatitis-C epidemic has reached record proportions among the African American community and has changed the social conditions for all Americans. Many individuals who are incarcerated will leave prison without realizing they may have already contracted one or more of these ailments. This trend causes devastating effects on minority communities, to include spread of said ailments, loss of life and continuous negative impacts affecting the United States Health Care and Treatment budget. All government agencies (state & federal) have the duty and responsibility to address such concerns and allocate a fair distribution of funds to promote testing for persons leaving prisons in all state and federal penal institutions within the United States,

The HIV/AIDS infection rate among African American women increased to an annual rate of 55 per 100,000 between 2000 and 2003 (infection rate nearly 19 times higher than that for non-Hispanic White women), and the infection rate for African American men exceeds 100 per 100,000 (in contrast to less than 15 per 100,000 among non-Hispanic White men). African Americans account for over half of reported AIDS cases, despite accounting for only 12% of the overall population.

The prison system contains perhaps the highest concentration of HIV infection in this country, as roughly one quarter of all those living with HIV in the U.S. passed through a correctional facility. Many persons committed to the state prisons are exposed to communicable diseases and contagious illnesses while incarcerated. Too often, the exposure to an illness or disease is not known until the inmate is released on parole, which means that the person has unknowingly transported the illness or disease out into the community.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: Testing for Individuals Released from Prison
- ◆ 2006: Health Screening Test in the Prisons Entering and Exiting

## Support for Organ and Tissue Donation

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP recommends educational efforts for its members to raise awareness about organ and tissue donation as well as wellness and disease prevention to increase the quality of life, lengthen the life span, decrease the rapidly expanding organ waiting list; and opposes any racial, social, or economic discrimination in the process.*

*The NAACP urges all of its units to endorse wellness and preventive health and encourage organ and tissue donation through educational interventions with their local organ procurement organization to maximize the number of organ and tissue donors in this country and to promote wellness.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2003: Support for Organ and Tissue Dnation

## Advance Directive for Mental Health Treatment

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP endorses and calls upon all units to work with their state legislators to proclaim and preserve the freedom for those with mental health disabilities to communicate their rights with an Advance Mental Health Directive.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2003: Advance Directive for Mental Health Treatment

## BiDiI

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP encourages Black patients with significant congestive heart failure to discuss with their physician BiDiI and other treatment modalities, acknowledging that, in actuality, the variation in response to pharmaceuticals such as Bidil is based upon genetic variation. Studies are needed to*

*determine which genetic profile or sequences respond to different medications; this is the basis for personalized medicine, the future of pharmaceuticals.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2005: BiDil in Treatment Plan of Black Patients with Congestive Heart Failure

## **Access to Prescription Drugs**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP advocates and urge all health insurance payers to ensure patient access to the highest quality, lowest cost prescription drug therapy possible, specifically those prescription drugs that have the potential to reduce disparities for African Americans.*

*The NAACP advocates that drugs and other treatments that have been shown to be effective solely in African Americans that these drugs and treatments be made available for free or, for those with insurance, with no co-pay to African Americans and to other minority groups.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: Health Insurance Payers Should Allow True Access to Prescription Drugs that are Proven to be Effective in African American Patients

## **Research into Reducing Health Disparities**

*The NAACP call on health policy-makers and grant-makers to support research that acknowledges or explains the complex interaction among race and the biological and social determinants of health, and oppose research that refuses to acknowledge or explain the complex interaction among race and the biological and social determinants of health.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: Reducing Health Disparities: A Socio-Scientific Representation of African-Americans in Research

## **Hearings on Infant Mortality Rates**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its current policies on care of women and children. The Federal and State governments are called upon to reauthorize and fully fund SCHIP programs in all states.*

*The National NAACP Health Committee established a special unit to work with state conferences and local units to receive testimony. The NAACP uses information to develop recommendations for resolving the problem of high infant mortality of African American and other minority babies in this country. These special units will submit this information to the National office for review and to make recommendations to Congress for resolving the problem of high infant mortality for African American babies in this nation and throughout other minority communities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: For Units to Hold Hearings on Infant Mortality Rates

## **Previous Legislation: Reauthorization of the Ryan White Care Act**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the U.S. Congress to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act with the following provisions to the reauthorization:*

- 1. Problem proportional funding for existing and new Title III projects to provide high-quality, community-based primary care to low-income, underserved and underinsured populations living in rural and underserved areas;*
- 2. Creation of an "Infrastructure and Capacity Expansion Program" to provide resources to assist community-based organizations in providing high-quality medical and supportive services to rural and urban communities serving underserved minority populations. Provision of these resources would build the organizational infrastructure and HIV service capacity in underserved communities;*
- 3. Preservation and quadrupling of the Congressional Minority AIDS Initiative to address the development, implementation and provision of high quality care by indigenous, culturally competent organizations to underserved minority individuals living with HIV/AIDS.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: Reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act

## **Guaranteed Health Care for All Veterans**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the principle that all Veterans must be guaranteed immediate access to the full continuum of health-care services by the government that they served to protect. The NAACP will include the topic of Guaranteed Health Care for all Veterans and their families in its annual workshops on the Concerns of Black Veterans, approved by a 2004 resolution to be held at each annual and state conference convention. The NAACP reaffirms its commitment to alleviating the barriers that lead to discrimination and protecting and advancing the rights of all Veterans,*

*including Black Veterans, Women Veterans, and Service-Disabled Veterans.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

2006: In Support of Guaranteed Health Care for All Veterans of the United States Armed Forces

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Housing



# Fair Housing Laws

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress and the Carter Administration to vigorously pursue all efforts to amend Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 to grant the Department of Housing and Urban Development the required authority to expand its ability to combat segregation and discrimination in housing by issuing cease and desist orders to secure compliance with the Fair Housing Law.*

*The NAACP demands that HUD take necessary actions to immediately institutionalize equal housing requirements in all of its programs and operations and to take other actions as required to bring about the prompt adoption of affirmative rules by all Federal agencies with responsibilities in the housing and financing field.*

*The NAACP aggressively promotes fair housing programs in their communities and will assist in the filing of complaints, the bringing of lawsuits, the identification of patterns of practices of discrimination in housing, and challenge financing practices which may be discriminatory.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Blacks have been restricted in their housing choices due to racial discrimination and exclusionary zoning laws. The shortage of affordable decent housing contributes to the deprivation of civil rights and racial tensions by confining blacks to dilapidated housing.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development must have the commitment, resources and authority to implement an effective program to eliminate racism in the provision and availability of housing for black people. Unfortunately, while Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, popularly known as the Federal Fair Housing Law, was broad in its coverage, and its prohibitions against discrimination were comprehensive, the law omitted any serious enforcement mechanism. The NAACP therefore worked tirelessly to enact Fair Housing Amendments to grant HUD enforcement power, which finally happened on September 13, 1988, and became effective March 12, 1989.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: NAACP in Support of Compliance with Equal Housing Laws
- ◆ 1977: Enforcement Authority for Federal Fair Housing Laws
- ◆ 1979: Fair Housing Amendments
- ◆ 1980: Fair Housing Amendments (H.R. 5200 and S. 506)
- ◆ 1987: Fair Housing Amendments (H.R. 1158 and S. 588)
- ◆ 1990: New Fair Share Housing Initiatives

## Redlining

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly condemns the redlining practices of insurance companies and insists that the state and Federal agencies take affirmative action to enforce those rules and regulations that will prevent these practices and be promulgated at the state and Federal level to correct these inequities.*

*The NAACP demands that all Federal and state government financial regulatory agencies take immediate actions to adopt affirmative marketing programs and rules to promote and enforce equal lending policies by the institutions they regulate.*

*The NAACP National Office is hereby authorized and directed to take such emergency actions as may be required to implement the purposes of this resolution.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

It is becoming increasingly difficult for home owners, tenants and businesses to obtain property insurance in minority impacted areas. This practice of redlining by Insurance companies is both discriminatory and unethical. The lack of available insurance to cover loss of property by fire or theft causes undue hardship on persons residing in the redlined areas and discourages the rehabilitation and purchase of homes in these areas.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: The NAACP in Opposition to Redlining
- ◆ 1978: Insurance Redlining

## The NAACP Encourages The Establishment of a National Development Bank

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress to act favorably upon the National Development Act of 1977 which would, among other things, provide loans for job training for unskilled and semi-skilled unemployed and underemployed workers, and provide for the construction of low- and moderate-income housing.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: The NAACP Encourages The Establishment of a National Development Bank

## Revenue Sharing and Community Development and Block Grant Programs

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its policy of urges all units of the Association to become familiar with the "A-95 Review Process," which allows organizations interested in furtherance and implementation of civil rights laws to review all applications for Federal financial assistance prior to the funding of such programs.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Revenue Sharing and Community Development and Block Grant Programs

## **Robert McKinney**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

The NAACP vigorously opposes the nomination of Robert McKinney as Chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. A copy of this resolution shall be released to the news media and circulated to other interested national organizations who also oppose the nomination of Mr. McKinney.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Opposition to the Nomination of Robert McKinney

## **Urban Policy**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the redevelopment and revitalization of central cities without the displacement of black-owned businesses from the central business districts. The NAACP urges that adequate Federal fiscal assistance be allotted to provide a wholesome environment with decent housing that is safe, sanitary and energy-efficient with adequate public services including mass transportation. The National Office shall provide such technical assistance and materials as will enable the branches to more adequately monitor the application for urban development action grants.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Federal and local governments to minimize the adverse effects of urban revitalization as they affect poor residents of the revitalized areas by:*

- 1. Extending low-rate mortgages for purchases and/or rehabilitation of houses in said areas to low-income residents;*
- 2. Requiring that a certain percentage of houses in rehabilitated areas be set aside for Section 8 Housing;*
- 3. Assisting those persons who cannot remain, and are displaced by private development, to relocate in decent, affordable and integrated*

*housing in this respect Congress should amend the Uniform Relocation Act to include persons displaced by private development.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Mounting urban problems have caused grave concern. The urban development action grants are a new program offered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to cities to assist in the revitalization of distressed communities and to provide economic and employment opportunities to disadvantaged residents in cities that have provided equal access to housing for blacks and other racial minorities, and affordable housing for its low- and moderate income population.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Civil Rights: Urban Policy
- ◆ 1978: Review of Federal Grants
- ◆ 1979: Urban Revitalization and Displacement

## **Section 8 Rent-Income Ratio**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress of the United States to defeat the proposal to enact an increase in the rent-income ratio, so that families who benefit from Section 8 subsidies can obtain decent, safe and sanitary housing at a price they can afford.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Section 8 Rent-Income Ratio

## **Reassessment of Housing Needs**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP deplores the surrender by the President and the Congress to the forces of reaction in their budget cuts in the area of human needs and call upon them to reassess the housing needs of this nation and to set a goal of at least 600,000 low and moderate income housing units, a goal that was established during a poor administration; and.*

*The NAACP calls upon our branches to make housing a top priority in assessing the records of their Senators and Congressmen in the 1980 elections.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1979: Reassessment of Housing Needs

## Tax-Exempt Mortgage Revenue Bonds

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP opposes the total prohibition on the use of bonds for construction of owner-occupied housing and favors that their use be limited to housing to be purchased by low and moderate-income families, that a ceiling be placed on the cost of such housing available for mortgages financed by the bonds and that the mortgages be limited to geographic areas most in need of assistance in promoting low and moderate-cost housing available on an integrated basis.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1979: Tax-Exempt Mortgage Revenue Bonds

## Collecting Housing Discrimination Data

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP reaffirms its commitment to the elimination of discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, ethnic background, color and sex in the housing market and that the market be made accessible to everyone on a nondiscriminatory basis.*

*The NAACP calls on the President to require the Department of Housing and Urban Development to uniformly collect, assemble, and centrally disseminate data on discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, ethnic background, color and sex in the housing market. The NAACP will actively oppose efforts by the national government to prevent or restrict the collection of housing discrimination data.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1986: Collection of Data on Housing Discrimination

## Privatization

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP opposes the privatization of the Federal Housing Administration, Amtrak, federally supported housing construction, rental and home*

ownership assistance programs, and public school compensatory education programs.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1986: Privatization

## Affordable Housing

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP reaffirms its interest and efforts in the development of housing and implementation of housing programs and the elimination of racial barriers. The NAACP and all of its branches urge the U.S. President and the Congress to restore funding for affordable housing to prior levels and enact legislation for increased appropriations to meet the pressing need for new affordable housing units, continuation of rental subsidies, and the rehabilitation of existing publicly subsidized units.*

*The NAACP supports like-term, like-kind renewal funding of all expiring Section 8 certificates. The NAACP calls on Congress and HUD to facilitate the substantial equivalency requirements of the Federal Fair Housing Laws among the states and their political subdivisions by allocating all properties coming under its control.*

### BACKGROUND:

The availability of affordable housing for people has been a long term concern of the NAACP. The need for affordable housing for such persons and families continues to increase, with long waiting lists for existing public housing and for Section 8 rental assistance certificates, and participation in affordable housing home ownership opportunities. The NAACP has led the way in breaking down the barriers to mortgage funds for low-income and first-time home buyers, as well as educating first-time home buyers in the complexities of home ownership.

The lack of safe and affordable housing has an enormous impact on American families and communities, to the extent that families have problems obtaining affordable housing and putting food on the table. Children who live in substandard housing are more likely to suffer from debilitating conditions such as asthma and lead poisoning. The lack of affordable housing has been cited in survey after survey of economically disadvantaged families as a major cause of concern for family friction and unrest.

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1988: Affordable Housing
- ◆ 1990: Affordable Housing
- ◆ 1997: Affordable Housing
- ◆ 2003: Need for Safe and Affordable Housing

## Public Housing

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its strong support for the nation's public housing program. The NAACP and its units urge appropriate actions by the U.S. Congress, state and local entities to provide for adequate funding of Public Housing Programs and strong enforcement of anti-discrimination laws to counter negligence and ineffective management and widespread racial segregation in government sponsored housing, which permit sound housing to deteriorate and become unsuitable for habitation.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Public housing, which serves the truly needy of our society, sustains a loss in units each year with 70,000 units boarded up while 1,000 units are demolished. In city after city, many housing projects are advanced stages, of decay, with the deterioration spreading surrounding communities. Despite federal legislation outlawing discrimination in housing, in virtually every part of the country racial segregation in public housing is considered the norm:

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1988: Public Housing
- ◆ 1990: Public Housing

## Housing Safety Net

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly urges the federal and state legislatures to pass laws that would require builders to give the tenants and the local government at least one year notice of prepayment action along with the right of first refusal to buy the buildings before they are placed on the market, or else extend the current leases, or other similar strategies for the elderly, handicapped, and families with children in order to avoid evictions.*

*The NAACP encourages federal and state legislators to enact legislation that will guarantee the right of first refusal to purchase to residents occupying properties owned by federal, state, local, governments and local public housing authorities (PHA) before they are placed on the market.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: Housing Safety Net

## The Resolution Trust Corporation

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*With a growing sense of urgency, the NAACP shall place the highest priority on its efforts to ensure that minority-owned firms receive a full and impartial opportunity to participate in all contracting activities which the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) enters into, such as asset management, accounting, appraisals, property management and the like.*

*The RTC shall be called upon to promptly adopt specific Fair Housing Rules consistent with current laws to ensure against discriminatory practices in the notification, sale, occupancy, financing, renting, or management of all properties coming under its control.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1990: The Resolution Trust Corporation

## **NAACP - Habitat for Humanity International Partnership**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP and HFHI will enter into a national partnership to work together to make it a matter of conscience that every person deserves a decent home in which to live and to raise a family. The NAACP and HFHI will encourage and facilitate local manifestations of this partnership among local chapters, regional representatives and individual local members to join with local Habitat affiliates, campus chapters, other departments and individuals to do this ministry together.*

*The NAACP and HFHI will work jointly and closely to sponsor the building of Habitat houses in each of the seven (7) regions designated by the NAACP, within five years of the start of this partnership. The NAACP and local Habitat affiliates will together, coordinate homeowner use of training, resources, networks and guidance provided by the NAACP, in an effort to better prepare homeowners for economic and educational success and independence.*

*The NAACP will challenge its affiliates to expand the Habitat ministry to the poor in developing countries by encouraging its constituents to participate in Global Village Work camps. This provides a vehicle to expand both organizations' international components.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1996: NAACP – Habitat for Humanity International Partnership

## **Discrimination in Mortgage Lending**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**



*The NAACP does hereby call on the Secretary or the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development to implement without further delay a nationwide program of testing mortgage lending institutions to detect possible discriminatory practices.*

*The NAACP reaffirms its long standing policy and commitment to opposing all restrictive practices in housing and fair lending.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Recent surveys conducted by the Federal regulatory agencies confirm that black homebuyers are being rejected for mortgage loans at consistently higher rates than white homebuyers. The United States Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs has found a history of discrimination in home lending practices by all of the Federal Government's financial regulatory agencies, though none of these agencies has ever made a formal finding of discrimination in an institution they supervise, despite widespread evidence that such discrimination exists.

WHEREAS, NAACP Branches have Housing Committees which are charged with working to assure equal housing opportunity for African-Americans and to provide oversight of mortgage lending, financial institutions, and the credit, insurance and real estate industries,

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1990: Racial Bias in Home Financing
- ◆ 1996: Discrimination in Mortgage Lending

## **Equity in Housing**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its commitment to address and remedy housing discrimination and inequities, and to advocate equal opportunity and access to adequate affordable housing.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Some of the major concerns continuing to exist for many years without satisfactorily resolution, are the lack of adequate and affordable housing and the inaction of all levels of government to address these concerns; the growing shortage of good public housing for the economically disadvantaged; the decreasing availability and sometimes questionable distribution of “Section 8” Housing Assistance Vouchers; the continuous growth of homeless persons and families in most cities and other communities the real and perceived discrimination (including racial profiling) in some programs already in effect and housing discrimination based solely on race, income, gender, the number of family members and housing subsidies.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: Re-affirmation of NAACP’s National Commitment for Equity in Housing

## “Section 8” Rental Assistance Program

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP recommends Section 8 of the rental assistance program:*

- *Be adequately funded by the federal government such so that sufficient vouchers can be made available to all who qualify.*
- *Have uniform qualification standards from state-to-state, in accordance with all legal non-discriminatory standards set by federal and state laws.*
- *Administer accurate reporting as to why Section 8 vouchers are unused (or relinquished) as reported, with an estimate of unfulfilled affordable housing needs be included.*

*This important Federal voucher program must not be transferred to the States, but remain as is, administered by the local housing authorities.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: “Section 8” Rental Assistance Program

## FY 2004 Budget for a Federal Housing Program

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes any FY 2004 inadequate budget funding levels for federal housing programs and any related Bush Administration initiatives that threaten extremely low-income tenants or the continued viability of the federal housing programs.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2003: Resolution Against Bush Administration’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 Budget for a Federal Housing Program

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

*International Affairs and Immigration*

## South Africa

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We urge NAACP units to sponsor programs to further enlighten the general community on living conditions of blacks in Southern African countries.*

*We urge the U. S. Government to call on American business firms, individuals, religious and secular institutions to cease their investing in South Africa until apartheid is ended and majority rule becomes a reality, and to exact tax penalties against U.S. companies doing business there. We call upon NAACP units to support local legislation and private efforts with this aim.*

*The U.S. must urge South Africa to.*

*A Release its political prisoners and begin negotiations with them and other black leaders in regard to wider political participation and the guarantee of human rights for all.*

*B Establish and practice freedom of assembly and speech.*

*C Abandon its policy of Bantustans, noting the world and U.S. refusal to recognize the so-called independent Transkei*

*D Begin the process of nonwhite suffrage on the "common voter roll "*

*E End all discrimination in employment*

*F Abolish the pass laws and the migratory labor control system*

*The United States is urged to tighten its embargo of arms to South Africa and should support a mandatory arms embargo in the Security Council. It should reassess its nuclear cooperation agreement with South Africa. The U.S. should insist that visas be given to U.S. citizens by the Republic of South Africa on an open and nondiscriminatory basis or face reprisal in the matter of visas from this country. The Administration is urged to recall the American commercial attaché in Pretoria as a first step in a policy of discouraging trade with or investment in the Republic of South Africa, and urge all Americans and all other freedom-loving people to refrain from purchasing the Krugerrand which is being sold as gold abroad by capital-shy South Africa.*

*A 19-person committee shall be established. It will be appointed by the Chairman of the National Board: 1 member shall be a youth; 7 to be elected (one from each Region) by the 78th Annual National Convention; and 5 appointed by the CEO/Executive Director, to gather facts and assess the options available in the dismantling of apartheid and, if necessary, to visit the front-line states. The 19-person Special Committee is mandated to make interim reports at the October and February meetings of the National Board of Directors, with a final report to be made no later than the 79th Annual National Convention. Adequate staff support shall be supplied to effect the work of the Special Committee.*

*The NAACP takes leadership roles by: 1) ceasing to collaborate with the racist regime; 2) cooperating with United Nations efforts to eradicate apartheid, and 3) increasing pressure to boycott South African sporting organizations that are selected on a racial bias;*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Through the years the NAACP has opposed colonialism and all forms of oppression in Africa. Historically the Association has instituted and participated in Pan-African conferences under the leadership of Dr W. E. B. Du Bois, Walter White and Roy Wilkins and supported the development of the emerging nations of that continent.

The truth remains that South Africa is a nation where the 19% of the population which is white rules all the rest that is non-white. No black, Indian or Colored may vote in South African elections. 87% of the land of South Africa is reserved for whites while the black Bantustans are allotted 13% of the land for 70.3% of the population. The color bar act still operates in the mining industry and requires racial discrimination in employment, unequal pay for equal work, and the barring of blacks from jobs that whites prefer. All education is segregated, except for two universities, and for blacks is restricted, by law, by the amounts of money expended and by the direction of the white Minister of Education.

The Black South Africans are calling for sanctions and want to isolate South Africa's economy from foreign support and thus cripple apartheid. The British and United States economies would suffer from further economic sanctions, in that they are major benefactors. Afrikaners (white South Africans) make up only 18% of the workforce and they earn 54% of all income in South Africa. Black South Africans earn only 26% of the income, and from they constitute 70% of the workforce. The over-all average income of whites is twelve times that of the Black South Africans. The United Nations General Assembly has urged all member organizations to terminate all relations with South Africa, including economic, technical, diplomatic and military cooperation. The United States' financial involvement in South Africa at the end of 1987 was 1.6 billion (15%) direct investment; 2.9 billion (28%) bank loans; 4.6 billion (57%) stock holdings.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: South Africa
- ◆ 1976: Southern Africa
- ◆ 1976: Republic of South Africa (Reaffirming 1975 Resolution)
- ◆ 1977: South Africa
- ◆ 1978: NAACP Position on Africa
- ◆ 1985: South Africa
- ◆ 1987: South Africa
- ◆ 1991: Resolution on Continuing Sanctions Against South Africa

## **Rhodesia (Zimbabwe)**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We call on the U.S Congress to reimpose the boycott of Rhodesian chrome by rescinding the Byrd Amendment which permits the importation of chrome into this nation.*

*Further, we call for vigorous support, by our government, of the efforts of Rhodesian (Zimbabwean) blacks to attain majority rule in their country through peaceful struggle.*

*We urge upon the Security Council, where the question of Rhodesia was placed by Great Britain, a fuller role in guaranteeing an orderly transition to majority rule in Rhodesia, including the provision of neutral security for both sides during the framing of the Constitution and the transitional period. Peace and the establishment of government that represents all of the people should no be lost because neither side trusts the other to control the military and the police during the transition.*

*We join with others who have considered the Rhodesian question in urging the participation of all groups, including the Liberation Army, in the drafting of constitutional arrangements and in urging free public discussion and voting in the ratification of such a Constitution.*

*We support continuation of sanctions against Zimbabwe, Rhodesia until it has a government functioning under true majority rule in which all political parties are permitted to participate.*

*We oppose any effort to deny to the President the authority to continue sanctions in the national interest and urge members of Congress to vote against any proposal that would do so*

## **BACKGROUND:**

We have vigorously opposed white minority rule in Namibia, Rhodesia and South Africa. We note with approval the recent statements of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger on Africa setting forth, at long last, a U.S. policy seeking majority rule in those African states still dominated by white minority governments. We shall expect this policy to be speedily and vigorously implemented.

We note the crucial state of the freedom fight in Zimbabwe bordering on revolution, and the continued implacable posture of the government of Ian Smith with respect to recognizing majority rule and representation in the government

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Southern Africa
- ◆ 1976: Namibia
- ◆ 1976: Rhodesia (Zimbabwe)
- ◆ 1977: Rhodesia
- ◆ 1979: Zimbabwe Rhodesian Sanctions

# Namibia

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We reaffirm our policy statement of 1975 on the illegal occupation of Namibia by the Republic of South Africa.*

*We call upon the U.S. Government to prevent American companies from operating in Namibia and aiding the South African economy, to support the World Court decision and the mandate of the United Nations calling on South Africa to withdraw from Namibia.*

*We call upon the U.S to join the U.N. Council for Namibia and contribute to the Trust Fund for Namibia.*

*We call for a stop to the practice of allowing U.S. companies to deduct against their U.S. income taxes those taxes paid to South Africa on income earned in Namibia*

*We support the guidelines set forth in Security Council Resolution 385 of January 30, 1976, which requires South Africa to withdraw and transfer power to the people of Namibia under U.N. supervision This would entail the release of all political prisoners, the abolishment of all racially discriminatory and politically repressive laws and the holding of free elections under U.N. supervision*

*We support a principal role for SWAPO, the South West African Peoples Organization, in the development of a final Constitution and Government under U.N. supervision Secretary Vance has held talks with Sam Nujomo, President of S.W.A.P.O.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

We have vigorously opposed white minority rule in Namibia, Rhodesia and South Africa. We note with approval the recent statements of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger on Africa setting forth, at long last, a U.S. policy seeking majority rule in those African states still dominated by white minority governments. We shall expect this policy to be speedily and vigorously implemented.

South Africa occupies illegally the sparsely settled, and but minerally rich Namibia. The United States has denied Export-Import Bank services to companies operating in Namibia and discourages American investment and business activity in that country by making clear that it will not support the claims of businesses or investors against the legal government when it comes into existence.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Southern Africa
- ◆ 1976: Namibia
- ◆ 1977: Namibia

# Angola

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The United States should recognize Angola.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

At a time when the U.S is developing increased relations with Cuba, it seems quixotic to refuse to recognize Angola because of the presence of Cuban troops there.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1977: Angola

## **Special Political Refugee Status**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The United States should grant special political refugee status, similar to that granted the Cubans, to Africans forced to flee Rhodesia, Namibia, Uganda, and the Republic of South Africa.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1977: Special Political Refugee Status

## **Foreign Assistance**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the Parren Mitchell bill to provide monies for the African Development Fund.*

*The NAACP urges a reduction in the loan proportion of aid to African nations without a reduction in the total package.*

*The NAACP urges the United States to increase its proportion of the Sahel project.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1977: Foreign Assistance

## **Ethnic Nationalism and Foreign Interference**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**



*We urge the United States to handle problems arising from such conditions in the U.N. or through the O.A.U.*

*We urge the Communist and Arab state systems to respect the territorial integrity of African states and to support the O.A.U. and the U.N.*

*We urge the O.A.U. to reassert and to monitor conformance with its principles of "non-alignment" for African states in the struggles of international state systems and "respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each (African) state."*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The new nations of Africa have as their boundaries the lines determined by the old colonialism. As a result, many ethnic groups are split among states or incorporated in states dominated by ethnic groups hostile to them. These conditions encourage movements to secede from a state or to redeem brothers lost in other states. Such movements, complicated by the refugees resulting from them, open the door for the power manipulations of other states and state systems in the world. As prizes are won—control of a waterway or of important resources—the power contest becomes more fierce, e.g., the horn of Africa.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Ethnic Nationalism and Foreign Interference

# **Ethnic Security, Human Rights and the Rule of Law**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We urge our African brothers to develop governmental measures to make strong nations from many ethnic groups, either by federal systems (E Pluribus Unum) or by the many mechanisms that secure the rights and full participation of different groups (civil rights laws, fair employment commissions, affirmative action programs, regional equalization programs, national and ethnic cultural celebrations, etc).*

## **BACKGROUND:**

As already noted, most African states experience the dissatisfaction of large ethnic groups within their borders and the consequent oppression of such groups. In this, they are historically no different from most states in the world, especially most European states. Most African states are without free political institutions on the Anglo-American model. Here again they find themselves in the company of most states in the world. As Americans of African descent who now enjoy civil rights, civil liberties and the rule of law, we look forward to our African brothers' enjoyment of the same privileges, in the full understanding that these conditions will only develop slowly after much effort.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Ethnic Security, Human Rights, and the Rule of Law

## NAACP Project

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office is directed to design and seek funding for a project to be undertaken in Southern Africa which will be of marked assistance in the development of self-determination, self-government, racial and economical equality.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP cannot expect to aid in African solutions without some presence in Africa. The NAACP has a bona fide talent and resources for this purpose in the fields of law and political science, both of which are sorely needed in Southern Africa. It has excelled in mounting initiatives that have ameliorated the conditions of inequality. Its membership includes college and university students and professors as well as physicians.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: NAACP Project

## Immigration

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We support legislation to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act so that all refugees can be treated equally, without regard to race, creed, color or national origin.*

*The NAACP calls upon the President of the United States and Congress to consider a more expansive, open and fair immigration policy that will provide the same opportunities to individuals from all Africa, Caribbean, Central and South American countries and individuals from other countries who are similarly situated both abroad and within the United States, thus, avoiding the development of an immigration policy that is restrictive and discriminatory in its nature and impact.*

*The NAACP calls upon NAACP representatives to educate their community on the immigration policy issues and use the issue as an accountability issue for elected officials.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Under present immigration law the Attorney General is allowed to admit refugees outside the immigration quota system under a system of parole, but such paroles may only be granted to refugees from Communist-dominated countries or the Mideast.

This law discriminates against blacks from Africa and the Caribbean area and other areas not covered by the present law.

The Administration is proposing and Congress is presently considering the development of a new immigration policy and accompanying implementation procedures which will provide wider and more expansive 'regularization' of immigrants and other individuals who are presently illegally or unofficially residing within the country.

It is understood that the policy is intended to be more compassionate to permit families to more easily be reunited; to provide special provisions for individuals from the countries on the western hemisphere; to permit entry to individuals so that they may support families and provide assistance to the rebuilding of their countries which have recently experienced tragic natural and economic disasters.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Immigration: Immigration and Aliens
- ◆ 2001: Resolution in Support of an Open and Nondiscriminatory National Immigration Policy

## **Economic Development in the Caribbean and the Bahamas**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will undertake to educate and encourage black American participation in the economic development, including tourism, of these nations.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

There are close cultural, social and historical ties between black Americans and black Caribbean nations. These nations are currently being developed. Black Caribbean businessmen and/or government leaders have indicated an interest in procuring black American participation in the economic development of these nations.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Economic Development in the Caribbean and the Bahamas

## **Haitian Refugees**

### **BACKGROUND:**

*The NAACP calls upon the President to issue an appropriate executive order to declare Haitian "boat people," political refugees. The NAACP calls upon the Congress to enact permanent legislation to designate Haitians as political refugees. The President must demonstrate his commitment to human rights for all by granting political asylum to these Haitian boat people already in this country under his parole authority.*

*The NAACP supports the issuance of work permits or other support-services for these Haitian refugees. The NAACP strongly urges fair and just hearings, with due process, including counsel, for these Haitian refugees, regarding their applications for political asylum.*

*The NAACP urges an end to the unjust U.S. immigration policies concerning Haitian asylum seekers in the US. The NAACP requests that all Haitians who have successfully passed their interviews be immediately released and given work permits to become productive members of society. The NAACP urges that the standards of facilities holding detainees be improved to require adequate, standardized housing facilities. The NAACP requests that Haitian children being detained have adequate access to continuing educational and recreational activities.*

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

The United States has been a haven for the tired, the poor and the homeless, giving blanket refugee status to hundreds of thousands of Cubans, Cambodians, Vietnamese, Eastern Europeans and others. As a result of recent intolerable economic, social and political conditions, thousands of Haitians have fled their homeland and sought refuge in America. The Haitian boat people are continuing to arrive in Florida necessitating an increase in existing social programs and services and they are greatly in need of an orderly system of delivery for processing and seeking governmental services.

The Federal Government has failed to classify Haitians as political refugees, thereby leaving them in an illegal alien status. Amnesty International has described the reality of political repression in Haiti and the arrest and executions of Haitians deported by our Immigration and Naturalization Services. Discrimination against Haitians turns on whether Haitians are fleeing political persecution or economic conditions. Because of Immigration and Naturalization Service practices, thousands of Haitian boat people have been denied refugee status and are forced to exist without legal authority to work or gain access to Federal benefits. The granting of refugee status to the Haitian "boat people" is moral, humane and refutation of the perception that our refugee policy is tainted by racial, ideological or class discrimination.

Since 1972, Haitians have been dying on the high seas. There are more than 270 detained Haitians in Miami alone. Prior to December 2001, Haitians who passed their interviews were quickly released.

Haitians seeking asylums legal representation report a lack of adequate space to conduct interviews and wait long hours to visit their clients. Haitians that are not being released are held in overcrowded detention facilities in Miami, FL. Congressman John Conyers cited "serious deficiencies" at Krome Service Processing Center, Turner Gulford Knight Correctional Center and the special INS facility for children without guardians. Women with children are taken to local hotels which have no access to education or recreational activities.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Haitian Refugees
- ◆ 1982: Haiti (Reaffirming 1980 Resolution)
- ◆ 2002: Immigration: Justice for Detained Haitian Asylum Seekers

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAACP publicly condemn United States efforts to destabilize the sovereign governments of these countries.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NAACP protest the use of United States tax dollars by the Administration to interfere in the internal affairs of these Third World countries.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP has traditionally been an advocate of human rights in the United States and throughout the world. The NAACP firmly believes in the self-determination of all nations. The Reagan Administration has openly indicated that United States foreign policy will utilize covert activities to undermine the present governments in same Third World countries and has openly supported destabilization of these sovereign states. These policies have been a prominent feature of United States foreign policy in Third World countries. These practices threaten peace throughout the world.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1982: Third World

# **Immigration Reform and Control Act**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The Association shall work to move Congress to repeal the employer sanctions.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA), which imposes sanctions against employers who knowingly hire unauthorized workers, requires the General Accounting Office (GAO) to issue reports to the Congress, in part, for the purpose of determining whether IRCA's sanctions have resulted in discrimination against eligible workers.

The 1990 GAO report entitled "Immigration Reform' Employer Sanctions and the Question of Discrimination" found that there was widespread discrimination against lawful residents and citizens as a result of IRCA.

The report reflects that the discrimination which occurs as a result of the employer sanctions is discriminatory hiring and verification practices of employers with respect to applicants with foreign appearances or accents.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1990: Immigration Reform Control Act

## Paying for the Gulf War

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP leadership at all levels insists that benefiting nations pay a fair share of the cost of the war.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Such world powers as Germany and Japan did not supply any personnel to help fight the war, but will continue to be prime beneficiaries from the Gulf region. The recent war in the Persian Gulf is estimated to have added billions to the already staggeringly high U.S. national debt. Debt increase has historically translated into reduced dollars being available for domestic and humanistic programs, and will therefore be felt disproportionately by minorities and the poor. Paying for the war, either through increasing taxation or raising the National debt, also impacts disproportionately on the poor.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1991: The Gulf War and Paying for the War

## Slavery in Sudan

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports economic sanctions and sanctions on military assistance or arms transfers to the government or any foreign country that participates, or is otherwise involved, in the establishment or conduct of slavery originating from Sudan.*

*The NAACP calls on the Organization of African States to agree to a plan to abolish slavery which has become a part of the civil war between the government forces and southern Sudanese non-Muslims in that country*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Although a 1991 Sudanese criminal law prohibits abduction, kidnapping, forced labor, unlawful confinement, and unlawful detention, and although Sudan categorically denies the practice of slavery in Sudan, slavery continues unabated in Sudan. In fact, the U.S. Department of State and Amnesty International reports both substantiate massacres, extrajudicial kidnapping, forced labor, and slavery in Sudan.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1996: Emergency Resolution: Slavery in Sudan

## U.S. Aid to Africa

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP support the Congressional Black Caucus in their proposal, which includes:.*

- *Funding peacekeeping operations in Angola - which we would expand - Haiti, Liberia, Rwanda, and the Western Sahara.*
- *Support for the President's food assistance programs, of which 90% goes to African countries.*
- *The immediate pay back of the \$1.2 billion we owe to the United Nations.*
- *The Development Fund for Africa at a level of \$804 million.*
- *The increase by \$2 billion over the President's request, the US commitment to multilateral development banks, which provide an important helping, hand to developing countries around the world, including Africa.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Helping to build a prosperous and peaceful Africa appears to remain a low priority in U.S. foreign policy, as evidenced by 1997 budget as submitted to Congress. Assistance to Africa, including development and aid, humanitarian relief, peacekeeping, military training anti-terrorism, anti-narcotics operations and the Peace Corps, totals \$1.1 billion, less than 6% of the foreign-affairs budget. Efforts to further democracy get a meager \$25 million. In contrast, Poland receives \$31 million, Haiti \$70 million, and Armenia \$80 million.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1997: U.S. Aid to Africa

## African Trade and Investment

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP endorses bi-partisan African trade and investment legislation and encourage the Congress to pass the legislation into law and prepare a strategy to monitor the implementation of this legislation.*

*The NAACP supports the creation of (1) an African Equity & Infrastructure Fund; (2) a U.S. -African Economic Forum; (3) U.S.-African Free Trade Area; (4) an Export/Import Bank and Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) Board Members with Africa private sector experience; and (5) a new position of Assistant United States Trade Representative for Africa..*

*The NAACP will write the President of the United States and request his full support for H.R. 1432, the African Growth and Opportunity Act.*

*The NAACP recommends that local initiatives be exercised in pursuit of this action.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP has long supported the goal of self determination and economic independence for the nations of Africa.

This legislation is based on building institutional ties with those African economies and leaders who are committed to economic and political reforms and to also support the growth and vitality of the African private sector. This legislation seeks to expand trade and investment between African and the U.S. and build strong and dynamic trade and investment relationships with the U.S. economy. This legislation has the potential to reduce poverty in Africa and expand economic opportunity in Africa and in the U.S.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1997: U.S. Trade and Investment

# **Nigeria Human Rights Violations**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports Amnesty International's Joint Program for Human Rights Reform in Nigeria as well as recommendations for actions by the International Community as contained in AI Index AFR. 44/14/9. The NAACP's National Office will write and recommend to the Nigerian military government the immediate release of human rights defenders and pro-democracy activists. NAACP branches are encouraged to contact their local Congresspersons to elicit support for, and hearings on H.R. 178.*

*The NAACP will write the President, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States, as well as General Safni Abacha, Chairman, Provisional Ruling Council, State House, Abuja, Federal Capitol Territory, Nigeria, informing them of the above actions. The National NAACP will inform all units of the passage of this resolution and recommend that local initiatives be exercised in pursuit of this action.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

West Africa is the historic homeland of most African Americans. The West African Nation of Nigeria since the present military government came into power in 1993, has exhibited blatant disregard for human rights. Amnesty International has documented the deterioration in human rights situations in many cases, (AFR Index 44/14/96): such as arbitrary detention of human rights defenders and pro-democracy activists, unfair trials before special tribunals, many of which have been followed by the execution of those found guilty; the torture and ill treatment of detainees; and the extrajudicial execution of unarmed civilians by soldiers.

The unchecked deterioration of human rights in Nigeria, West Africa destabilizes the wider west African region, promotes non-democratic tyranny and inhibits the growth of international standards of humanity. Such inhumane actions in West Africa constitute a hardship and burden for African Americans in particular and all people concerned with civil rights and justice in general.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**



- ◆ 1997: Nigeria's Military Government

## School of the Americas

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports measures introduced by Representative Kennedy to close down the S.O.A.*

*All members of the House and Senate must be informed of this action and be asked to vote against further funding of the S.O.A..*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Intelligence Oversight Board (I.O.B.) is a four person independent board created by the president, charged with investigating excesses and abuses of the U.S. Intelligence community. The I.O.B. issued its report on June 28, 1996, concluding that the U.S. Army School of the Americas (S.O.A.) located at Fort Benning, Georgia, which yearly trains 700-2,000 soldiers from Latin America and the Caribbean, used training methods from 1987-1991 that condoned execution of guerillas, extortion, torture, coercion, and false imprisonment, on their own people. The United Nations Truth Commission Report on El Salvador and the S.O.A. issued August 27, 1993 indicates that nearly 70% of S.O.A. alumni were involved in several reported atrocities, including the 1989 murder of six Jesuit priests. Consistently Latin American Nations with the worst human rights records send the most soldiers to the S.O.A..

The movement to close the S.O.A. is rapidly growing following the introduction in 1993 of a bill not to fund the S.O.A. was put before the House (HR3116), lost by 174 to 256 followed by a similar bill in 1994 (HR4301) lost by 175 to 217, both bills were introduced by Representative Joseph P. Kennedy of Massachusetts..

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: School of the Americas

## Support for the Federation of East Africa

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will write a letter to the Presidents of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania as well as the Secretariat of the East African Community expressing support for the East African people as they forge towards political federation. The NAACP encourages economic exchange between U.S. corporations and the Federation of East Africa. The NAACP will make efforts to meet with the Presidents of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania as well as the Secretariat of the African Union to show support for the political Federation of East Africa.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The inter-territorial cooperation between Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar was created in 1948 by the East African High Commission, creating a common external tariff, currency and postage, transportation, communication, research and education. In 1967 the East African Common Services Organization was superseded by the East African Community aimed at strengthening the ties between the members through a common market, tariffs, and public services to achieve a balanced economic growth within the regions. The East African community collapsed in 1972 following political differences between Presidents Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya, Idi Amin Dada of Uganda and Mwalima Julius Nyerere. In 1997 Presidents of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania re-established the East Africa Community with the aim of establishing common customs tariffs, regional court, legislative assembly, and eventually a political federation. In 1999 the treaty to restore the East African Community was signed by the Presidents, Hon. Daniel Arap Moi, Hon. Yoweri Museveni and Hon. Benjamin Mkapa.

The countries of Rwanda and Burundi have applied to join the East African Community and may join in 2006. In 2005 a customs union of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania was inaugurated. The principle of political federation was warmly welcomed by the people of East Africa. A strong Federation is only possible if it is owned by the people of East Africa themselves through effective democratic and informed participation from the beginning of the process up to the end.

All the Presidents of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania have reiterated their support for the principle of accelerated and fast tracking of the Federation by 2010 and single President in 2013. The NAACP is a world recognized non-governmental organization with technical expertise in civil rights, democracy development and political advocacy, and therefore wishes to support the developing democracy of East Africa.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

2006: Support for the Federation of East Africa

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

*Labor and Industry*

## Bonding for Minority Contractors

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Surety companies are compelled by Federal law to permit qualified small or minority contractors to operate under the bond of the general contractor or construction manager.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Bonding for Minority Contractors

## Humphrey-Hawkins Bill

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We reaffirm our support of the Humphrey-Hawkins Bill (HR 50 and S50) and we call upon our branches to contact their Senators and Congressmen to urge them to support this legislation.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Humphrey-Hawkins Bill

## Mass Transportation

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Federal Government to provide grants and operating subsidies, including fare subsidies for low-income families. Such funds, if necessary, should be diverted from the highway trust funds.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Network Discrimination

## Postal Employment

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls for Federal legislation, appropriating an adequate subsidy to the United States Postal Service to enable the Service to restore jobs, to provide continued job security, to maintain the general well-being of those minority employees currently adversely affected, and to again provide adequate service to the national community.*

*Legislation granting subsidies to the postal system include a strong provision that will insure the enforcement of provisions of OFC, and, in addition, a procedure be established to cut the red tape in the complaint procedures so that quick relief from acts of racial discrimination can be obtained.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Postal Employment

## **Civil Service Legislation**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Until such time as the Commission enforces the EEO law as it was intended, the NAACP opposes any strengthening of the Commission's control over the Federal personnel system, and call upon Congress to defeat legislation that would strengthen the Commission in this regard.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Civil Service Legislation

## **Discrimination by the ICC in Transportation Regulation**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress of the United States to establish a special committee to investigate the racial practices of the ICC, and the apparent conspiracy which exists between the agency and the trucking industry to exclude blacks and other minorities.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress to enact appropriate legislation to facilitate the expansion of legitimate trucking operations, in interstate commerce, by blacks and other minorities as owner/ operators, and in addition thereto, said commission be mandated to maintain and enforce an affirmative action program for the subject industry.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Interstate Commerce Commission to review its regulations and procedures, to find effective means to prevent and eliminate illegal discrimination, to maintain and enforce an industry-wide affirmative action program, and affirmatively assist and facilitate the expansion of blacks and other minorities as owner/operators in this vital area of our national economy*

*The NAACP calls upon the President to appoint blacks to the ICC Commission.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Discrimination by the Interstate Commerce Commission with Respect to Its Regulation of the Transportation Industry

### **Fair Minimum Wage and the Fair Labor Standards Act**

#### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its commitment to a living wage and calls on the U.S. Congress and the President to pass legislation to establish a federal living wage.*

*The NAACP supports a fair minimum wage above the poverty level, tied to an index that will not require periodic changes in the law, but will assure automatic increases as wages rise in the rest of the economy. The NAACP calls on the President to review the minimum wage at least biannually to keep the minimum abreast of the changes in the cost of living so that anyone at the minimum wage level will not be in a declining state of living as prices increase.*

*In 1995, the NAACP called upon the United States Congress to swiftly pass legislation increasing the minimum wage by 90 cents an hour, over two years. In 2006, the NAACP supported increasing the minimum wage with an initial increase of \$1.85 and an increase of \$1.00 an hour per year every year until the U.S. minimum reaches the level of a federal living wage, and thereafter, tie any additional increase to the federal cost of living index.*

*The NAACP will mobilize its considerable “grassroots” resources in a nationwide campaign to support this important legislation. The NAACP calls upon the National Office and all of its units to use its resources to ensure that any attempts to create a subminimal wage for youth are fruitless.*

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Any increase in the minimum wage represents a step in the right direction to improve the income and the quality of living for all Americans. This is particularly true for African Americans, who disproportionately constitute a large segment of minimum wage earners with below poverty level incomes. The minimum wage was first set at 25 cents an hour in 1938 under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

The NAACP maintains that support for an increased minimum wage fits squarely into the welfare reform debate since the current minimum wage is not a living wage and instead is an incentive to remaining on welfare.

In 2006, a minimum wage employee who worked full-time, 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, earned only \$10,700 a year—more than \$6,000 below the poverty level for a family of three. Minimum wage workers are forced to make impossible choices every day -- between paying rent and buying groceries, between paying the heating bill and buying clothes or going to the doctor.

In the early 2000's, fewer than one in five minimum wage workers were under the age of 20, and half of minimum wage earners were between the ages of 25 and 54. Some have discussed creating and establishing a subminimal wage for youth. The NAACP decries any attempts at the creation of a sub-minimum wage for youth and vigorously reaffirms its position in support of the Fair Labor Standards Act,

Over the past ten years Members of Congress have raised their own pay by \$31,000, but the minimum wage has not gone up even one cent over the same time period.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Extension of Minimum Wage and Fair Labor Standards Coverage
- ◆ 1977: Fair Minimum Wage
- ◆ 1979: Minimum Wage and Fair Labor Standards Act
- ◆ 1987: Federal Minimum Wage
- ◆ 1995: Legislative and Political Affairs: Fair Minimum Wage
- ◆ 2006: Legislative and Political Affairs: NAACP Supports an Increase in the Minimum Wage (Reaffirming the 1995 Policy)

## **Job Creation and Job Training**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP endorses the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act (HR 50) concepts that there must be a job creation and skills training program developed with the assistance of the Federal Government. The NAACP supports the Black Congressional Caucus' endorsement of HR 12060/S 2939, the Job Creation and Training Act of 1976, which would provide skills training for unemployed persons.*

*Blacks must be directly involved in developing such job programs and particularly in developing skills training programs in the face of an increasingly automated economy.*

*The NAACP endorses the efforts to develop, with government assistance, special programs to address the needs of youth and underemployed women who work at low skill jobs and are increasingly heads of households.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Job Creation and Job Training

## **Civil Service Examination**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the newly-named members of the Civil Service Commission to implement the Federal affirmative action program, which has existed in name only in previous administrations.*

*The NAACP calls for an examination by the Commission of all employment tests given in the Federal Government to determine, under EEOC standards, whether such tests are job-related and/or have an adverse racial impact, and if so to eliminate or modify such tests .*

*The NAACP calls upon the Commission to reinstate the exemption from test requirements formerly granted to outstanding college graduates for jobs leading to careers in the Federal administration.*

*The NAACP calls for the elimination of special programs for different groups subject to discrimination and for the integration of all EEO affirmative action programs, with goals and timetables to accommodate each such group .*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Civil Service Examination

## **Trade Unionism**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports and seeks legislation that will encourage workers to organize in all areas of civilian employment throughout our country and consistent with our Branch Constitution to continue to educate our trade union members.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Trade Unionism

## **Equal Employment Opportunity in Foreign Companies**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Board of Directors, state conferences and local branches will communicate to the President their strong concern that foreign companies doing business in the USA adhere to existing Federal and state laws with regard to equal employment opportunities and affirmative action programs.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**



## Unemployment

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will continue with every available effort to assure that the quest for full and equal employment opportunity continues toward becoming a reality.*

*Even if existing anti-discrimination laws were strictly enforced (which they are not) equal opportunity for blacks would not be attainable because of the lack of employment opportunities. To reach the goal of full and equal employment opportunity, the NAACP calls again for the enactment of the Hawkins-Humphrey full employment bill. Pending its passage and implementation, we call for passage of the House-approved youth employment program extension of the CETA program, continuation of Federal supplemental unemployment benefits, full funding for public employment programs and such other programs as will increase job creation in both the public and private sectors.*

*The NAACP, fully recognizing the importance of the national intent embodied in H R 50 in its attempt to reach a goal of full and equal employment opportunity for all of this nation's able-bodied work force, at this time, call for the immediate enactment of bill.*

*The NAACP seeks representation on all policy-advisory councils charged with the responsibility for implementing those programs that will alleviate chronic unemployment through training, education and employment.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Despite recent progress, joblessness remains at crisis levels, particularly among minorities, women and young people. For black Americans, the economic situation can only be termed a depression. The improvements in recent months cannot be cause for rejoicing nor an excuse for inaction. Instead of celebrating six million Americans officially out-of-work, we ought to be moved to action on a national commitment to full employment.

That is why the NAACP endorses the Humphrey-Hawkins as an essential first step toward full employment. This legislation will commit this nation and its leaders to specific targets of no more than 3 per cent adult unemployment and 4 per cent overall unemployment by 1983 The bill mandates the President and Congress to implement, policies and programs to reach these targets and achieve genuine full employment. We support this vital legislation because it makes the achievement of full employment the central priority of economic life and establishes the comprehensive framework for a focused and flexible attack on joblessness.

We are appalled at the attempts being made to destroy this legislation through the attachment of a specific numerical inflation goal.

President Carter, the AFL-CIO, the National Association of Manufacturers, the House of Representatives and virtually every supporter of Humphrey-Hawkins oppose a specific numerical inflation goal and timetable. The imposition of an unrealistic inflation goal would be used to postpone action to reach full employment, based on the discredited notion of a trade-off between unemployment and inflation, and could raise disturbing questions regarding the role of government in achieving the inflation goal.

Moreover, the Humphrey-Hawkins Bill already includes several major anti-inflation measures and proposes targeted job programs to combat unemployment without generating inflation. What the bill does not do is make progress against joblessness dependent on a reduction of inflation, nor does the bill rely on the idleness of workers to force down the level of inflation. As recent history demonstrates, these approaches don't work and they result in terrible economic and human costs.

We will not be fooled by those who say they are for social and economic justice but vote for an unrealistic and unachievable goal for inflation. The NAACP and the American people know that our major protection against inflation is a job at decent wages. The proportional rate of unemployment among blacks continues to escalate at an alarming rate and is particularly devastating to black Americans, particularly youth. The public educational system has failed to effectively equip our black youth with the necessary "life skills" to effectively compete in the job market.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Unemployment
- ◆ 1978: Humphrey-Hawkins Bill
- ◆ 1978: Unemployment
- ◆ 1980: Unemployment: Funding for Education and Manpower
- ◆ 1980: Humphrey-Hawkins

## **Pregnancy as a Temporary Disability**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP directs our units to press for the passage of legislation that would treat pregnancy as a "temporary disability."*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Pregnancy as a Temporary Disability

## **Title VII**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP affirms its support for stronger enforcement powers for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and calls for reorganization of Federal enforcement of the prohibition against discrimination by executive action and legislation. Any such reorganization should include*

- (a) Granting of cease and desist authority to EEOC,
- (b) Centralization of supervision of all Federal anti-discrimination employment programs in EEOC,
- (c) Uniform standards and guidelines for such enforcement to be established by EEOC.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Title VII

## **Illegal Aliens**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will advise the President of the United States, the Congress, and through them all appropriate departments, agencies, corporations businesses and individuals, of its grave concerns relating to illegal aliens, their unlawful employment and the need for assurance of full observation of the civil rights of all U.S. citizens when legislation is drafted to deal with this problem.*

*The President and the Congress, through the passage and enactment of proper legislation, must work for the immediate cessation of the employment and use of all illegal aliens.*

*The President and the Congress must approve of the levying of stiff monetary and/or imprisonment penalties to be imposed on all persons, businesses and/or groups and organizations found to be guilty of violations of the employment and use of illegal aliens.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Illegal Aliens

## **J P Stevens**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We call upon all members, friends and sympathizers of the NAACP to engage in a selective buying campaign with respect to all J P Stevens Company products.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: J.P. Stevens

## Defense Electronics Supply Centers and Military Installations

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the President of the United States to require that each decision on relocation of centers and installations not adversely affect the economic stability of the impacted community.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Defense Electronics Supply Centers and Military Installations

## Day Care Programs in Private Homes

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly demand Federal support of quality day care programs whether they be located in centers or in certified private homes provided they meet appropriate Federal and state standards.*

*The Washington Bureau will monitor, lobby and solicit support for the pending Title XX legislation.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Day Care Programs in Private Homes

## EEO and the Civil Service Reform Bill

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon all Senators to vote against the Ribicoff amendment, and if it remains in the bill, to vote against S. 2640 on final passage. It urges all members of the House of Representatives to vote against any Ribicoff-type amendment.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: EEO and the Civil Service Reform Bill

## Handicapped

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP is a strong advocate for ensuring and preserving the civil rights, full employment and empowerment of African Americans with disabilities throughout this nation.*

*The NAACP advocates full and immediate implementation of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in the private and public sectors, and in the federal, state and local governments with a full range of services including, but not limited to, quality vocational, technical and academic training and education. The NAACP pledges to work in collaboration with the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities and other governmental agencies, private organizations and individuals to help alleviate the employment crisis faced by African Americans and other minorities with disabilities.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Handicaps and disabilities constitute another form of discrimination and exclusion from full equality in the American society and employment. A recent report of the U.S. Census Bureau show that 66% of able-bodied African Americans are employed, as compared to 68% of Hispanics and 76% of Caucasians, but only 34% of African Americans with disabilities are employed, compared to 40% of Hispanics and 55% of Caucasians, and 15% of African Americans with a severe disability are employed, as compared to 20% of Hispanics and 25% of Caucasians.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Handicapped
- ◆ 1997: African Americans with Disabilities

## **Labor Law Reform Act S-2467**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports all fair and progressive measures of S-2467, and urges senators to vote for the returned bill without crippling amendments.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Labor Law Reform

## **Winn-Dixie Stores**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP deplores the discriminatory employment practices of the Winn-Dixie Stores, Incorporated, and its subsidiaries.*

*Members of the NAACP are urged to join in supporting enthusiastically a nationwide selective buying program against Winn-Dixie Stores, Incorporated, and its subsidiaries until those companies come into compliance with the orders of the NLRB and the Federal courts.*

*The NAACP will communicate the message of this resolution to all its chapters.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Winn-Dixie Stores

## **Agriculture**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the gallant stands taken by the farmers of the American Agriculture Movement where our interests coincide.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Agriculture

## **Foreign Imports**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP respectfully requests that the President of the United States, the Secretary of State and the Trade Negotiating team of the Carter Administration, in connection with the on-going negotiations at Geneva, Switzerland:*

- 1. Take action which will serve to bring the growth rate of allowed for imports into balance with the growth rate of our domestic market.*
- 2. Take no action, particularly with respect to tariff reductions, involving uncontrolled importing countries which will adversely affect American production and employment in the textile and apparel industries.*
- 3. Review with interested organizations the measures that are being employed to achieve the aforementioned objectives.*

*The NAACP calls on the President and Congress to take further steps to correct the adverse impact on excessive foreign imports.*

*The NAACP urges any future bilateral trade agreements between trading nations reserve a substantial amount of cargo to be carried on the vessels of the trading partners involved as this would substantially increase the number of American flag shipst hereby creating more jobs for American seamen.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1978: Foreign Imports

## Title VII and the EEOC

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP seeks a meeting with the chairperson of EEOC for the purpose of discussing the problems faced by minorities arising out of the reorganization of the civil rights function of the commission that was recently enacted by its chairperson.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1978: Legal Affairs - Employment

## White House Conference on Civil Rights

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP renews its unheeded call for a White House Conference on Affirmative Action and calls for its expansion to include school desegregation, youth unemployment and the resurgence of the activities of hate groups in the United States.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1979: White House Conference on Civil Rights

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1976: Network Discrimination

## OSHA

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP is vehemently opposed to any legislation which modifies the 1970 law that would exempt work places from safety and health requirements.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1980: OSHA

## Employment of Government Workers

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The Office of Personnel Management, as well as each of the Federal personnel bodies in each Federal agency must ensure that blacks are hired and promoted in Federal sector positions at least proportionate to the population of blacks in America.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1980: Procedure for Employment of Government Workers

## Government Wage Standards

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls upon the President of the United States to ensure that such government employees receive a fair day's wage for a fair day's work.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1980: Government Wage Standards vs. a Decent Living Wage

## Job Loss Task Force

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP will establish a task force to determine where jobs will be within the next ten years and where training might be obtained. The task force is to be composed of representatives from business and industry, labor, higher education and other Sectors. The task force is to prepare a written report to be submitted at the next Convention.*

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1983: Job Losses



## Implementation of the Job Partnership Training Act

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon all NAACP Branches and Youth Councils to monitor the performance of Private Industry Councils in their areas.*

*The NAACP calls upon black and other legislators at all levels of government to vigorously enforce the requirements of the Act and ensure that minorities, the poor, the displaced are given priority of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1984: Implementation of the Job Partnership Training Act

## Procurement for Black and Minority Contractors

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP seeks the recommended revisions to PL 95-507 through federal legislative actions.*

*The NAACP seeks to participate in the evaluation and monitoring process of PL 95-507, as outlined in this resolution, with power to recommend sanctions for non-compliance where prime contractors fall short of minority business enterprise participation, especially in situations involving flagrant violations of the revised PL 95-507.*

*The economic development committees of the various units of the NAACP will be the implementers of this evaluation and monitoring process of the revised PL 95-507.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: Procurement for Black and Minority Contractors

## Affirmative Action in the Social Security Administration

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the Secretary of Health and Human Services to direct the Social Security Administration to perform the necessary analysis of the SSA workforce to identify under-utilization of blacks and women; determine the causes of such under-utilization and develop and implement an appropriate plan of corrective action to eliminate the problem.*

*The Secretary of HHS directs the Social Security Administration to implement all of the recommendations included in the GAO Report.*

*The NAACP urges the appropriate committee(s) of Congress to call on the Secretary of HHS or the appropriate designee to report to the Congress immediately at the second session of the 100th Congress convenes in 1988 on what steps have been taken to eliminate the discriminatory practices outlined in the GAO Report.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Improvement of Affirmative Action in the Social Security Administration

## **Displaced and Dislocated Workers**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP directs its branches to examine how this change in the nature of work in our economy will impact on displaced and dislocated workers in general and the black community in particular.*

*The NAACP Labor Department will prepare and disseminate information to branches which include descriptions of programs that have been successfully implemented in local communities to help displaced and dislocated workers become fully employed.*

*We call on the NAACP to work to ensure that the United States Department of Labor and other appropriate agencies monitor the funds being appropriated by the Congress as part of the "Competitiveness package for retraining displaced and dislocated workers be spent on training workers for jobs that will actually exist in the year 2000 and beyond.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Displaced and Dislocated Workers

## **Plant Closings**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon federal and state governments to jointly develop and adequately fund training programs for displaced while simultaneously providing financial support and other resources to assist local and state government efforts to develop new sources of employment, especially jobs offering comparable wages and benefits;*

*The NAACP directs its officers, staff and branches to vigorously lobby the executive and legislative branches of the federal government for federal legislation designed to provide adequate (60 day minimum) notification to workers and communities of future plant closings.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1988: Plant Closings

## **Attempted Takeover of the Teamster's Union**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP condemns the attempted takeover of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Union by the United States Government.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1988: Attempted Takeover of the Teamster's Union

## **Tennessee Valley Authority and Discrimination In Performance Evaluation and Appraisals**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office of the NAACP will give special attention to the Credit Performance Evaluation Program at the TVA.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: Tennessee Valley Authority and Discrimination in Performance Evaluation and Appraisals

## **Loan Denials by Banks to Black Businesses**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will study the problems of black businesses and identify appropriate alternatives to address with them.*

*The National Office will provide a form for use by local branches to monitor financial institutions lending patterns and guidelines.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: Loan Denials by Banks to Black Businesses

## **Affirmative Action Policy - US Dept of Labor**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges governmental agencies, specifically including the Department of Transportation, to resume the practice by which women were considered as in a category separate and distinct from racial, religious and ethnic minorities and, also, call upon the Congress to hold oversight hearings and revise the pertinent legislation so as to encourage or require the allocation of minority set-asides to the racial, religious or ethnic minority or minorities which such set-asides were intended to benefit.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: Affirmative Action Policy – U.S. Department of Labor

## **Blacks in Highway Construction**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the Congress and the Federal Highway Administration to adopt requirements that will ensure that each state and local government and each contractor covered hereunder be obligated to hire blacks in proportion to their percentage in the relevant population.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: Blacks in Highway Construction

## **Reaffirmation of Strikes Permanent Replacement Legislation**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its support for the fundamental right of workers to organize, to engage in collective bargaining, to strike or engage in other legal job actions and to be free from interference with the legitimate exercise of union rights.*

*The NAACP will assist in exposing "union-busting" consultants and right-to-work committees as anti-workers.*

*The NAACP urges its branches and units to support organizing drives in which workers seek fair representation elections with a union of their own choice and other union activities that are consistent with the aims and objectives of the NAACP.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1992: Reaffirmation of Strikes Permanent Replacement Legislation

## Davis-Bacon Act

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the Davis-Bacon Act, will take steps to strengthen its enforcement, and supports the creation of opportunities through training and apprenticeship programs.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1993: Davis-Bacon Act

## Promotional Opportunities for African Americans at the GS-13, 14, 15, and Senior Executive Services Grade Levels

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP requests that the President establish a Task Force which will conduct a National Performance Review of the Federal Government's Equal Employment Opportunity Programs with the NAACP's Federal Employment Task Force representative playing a major role throughout the process.*

*The President of the United States must develop an executive order which mandates vigorous monitoring enforcement of laws, regulations, and policies designed to redress the lack of equal employment opportunities in Federal Agencies.*

*The NAACP will lobby the U.S. Congress to implement existing legislation that ensures the enforcement of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 through penalties assessed against federal management officials and management officials (public or private) who violate the law, its spirit or intent.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1995: Promotional Opportunities for African Americans at the GS-13, 14, 15, and Senior Executive Services Grade Levels

## Opposing Sweat Shops

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will work to educate our members about sweatshops here and abroad, and about their role in helping to end sweatshops.*

*The NAACP supports enactment of the Stop Sweatshops Act of 1997.*

*The NAACP calls on all clothing retailers and manufacturers to enact global codes of conduct, vigorously enforced, publicized to workers in the language they understand, and monitored by independent worker and human rights organizations.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Opposing Sweat Shops

## **Migrant Workers**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP endorses the VFW's Strawberry Organizing Campaign and encourages all of its local units to participate in public support activities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Strawberry Workers

## **Welfare to Work**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the President and Congress to create new and good jobs, in the service and manufacturing occupations.*

*The NAACP calls upon the President and Congress to make work fair and:*

- 1. Provide living wage employment incentives by protecting public and private sector workers from displacement by work-for-welfare schemes that substitute a captive labor force of welfare recipients for workers who work for real wages;.*
- 2. Provide welfare recipients put to work with the same rights as other workers on the job site such as the right to join a union, minimum wage, overtime, health care and health & safety protections; and enhance labor law enforcement to prevent sweatshops and exploitation of immigrant workers.*
- 3. Strengthen unemployment insurance, increase weekly benefits; expand eligibility; insure that the working poor are not excluded; prevent the denial of unemployment insurance for lack of available child care.*
- 4. Expand health care access for low wage workers by: expanding Medicare eligibility; supporting legislation to raise the Medicare eligibility rate and allowing poor working families to maintain coverage.*
- 5. Increase funding to federal agencies for Civil Rights and Equal Opportunities Enforcement.*

*The NAACP reaffirms its commitment to the disadvantaged and underrepresented by sharing with other labor leaders, friends of labor, ministerial alliances, and public interest groups, this resolution in support of real welfare reform.*

*The NAACP Washington Bureau, state, and local units are directed to call, write and/or fax their Congressional and Senate Representatives and request that action be taken immediately to insure that the safety net for millions of our most vulnerable and poor citizens who have or currently rely on AFDC, food stamps, TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families), Medicare and Medicaid to survive, is restored.*

*The NAACP calls upon the President and Congress to continue to provide the traditional assistance (food stamps, Medicare, SSI, job training, etc.) to immigrant workers.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Welfare to Work

## **Bakery Confectionery & Tobacco Workers International**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Tthe NAACP hereby and herein calls on the President of the AFL-CIO to use his good office to immediately intervene and assist in bringing to closure these discriminatory acts and actions taken by the leadership of the Bakery, Confectionery and Tobacco Worker's Union; and the NAACP will use any and all means deemed appropriate and necessary to bring to closure these inequities and right these wrongs.*

*The NAACP seeks full reinstatement for full membership in the Bakery, Confectionery and Tobacco Workers Union, the reinstatement of workers and restoration of lost wages and pension credits for any individual or individuals who have suffered due to any discriminatory action on the part of the Bakery, Confectionery and Tobacco Worker's Union.*

*Tthe NAACP encourages the appointment of African Americans to the Bakery, Confectionery and Tobacco Workers Union's internal staff, including vice-presidents, that is reflective of Bakery, Confectionery and Tobacco Worker's Union membership; ensure the election of African Americans by creating a process that will ensure African Americans will be elected to office within the hierarchy of this union.*

*The NAACP calls for a summit of all unions to deal with injustice, and discriminatory treatment in their representation of African Americans and to address the lack of African American representation in all strata of union activities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: Bakery, Confectionery and Tobacco Worker's Union

## **Investigation of American Airlines Labor Practices**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP and its membership request a federal investigation into the actions of the Department of Labor's national headquarters and its regional offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Dallas, Texas in failing to enforce its own laws as regards their "Show of Cause" against American Airlines and refusing to release American Airlines Affirmative Action Programs and Work Force Utilization Reports under the Freedom of Information Act.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: Investigation of American Airlines Employment Labor Practices

## **US Postal Service**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP encourages the national office, state conferences and all branches to investigate the level of violence that exists in the post office workplace and other federal agencies.*

*The NAACP will document the level and extent of sexual and racial discrimination in hiring, promotion and firing practices in the U.S. Post Office, and federal agencies.*

*The national office is directed to seek Congressional Hearings with resultant relief and resolution.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: U.S. Postal Service

## **Worker's Civil Right to Free Association**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will call upon all employers to remove themselves from employees' decisions on their right to free association.*

*The NAACP supports employees' freedom to make the decision to unionize without interference from the employer.*

*The NAACP calls upon all employers to allow employees to express their opinions freely and openly, without taking any action to intimidate, discipline, harass, humiliate, or fire any employee for his or her pro-union views or activities.*

*The NAACP calls upon employers to recognize the union and begin negotiations for a union contract when a majority of employees demonstrate their desire for union representation, whether by signing cards or a petition or through an election.*



*The NAACP will use the full moral and legal authority of our offices to support workers who are organizing a union, including:*

- *Meeting with workers who are organizing;*
- *Publicly speaking out in support of workers who are organizing;*
- *Meeting with employers to ensure their neutrality and that they respect the rights of employees to organize free of fear and intimidation.*
- *Providing independent verification of whether a majority of workers indicate their desire to unionize through signatures on union authorization cards, a community election, or any other non-coercive process of free choice.*

*The NAACP encourages the appointment of African-Americans to the union's staff, including vice-presidents, that is reflective of the Union's membership; ensure the election of African-Americans by creating a process that will ensure African Americans will be elected to office within the hierarchy of this union.*

*The NAACP calls for a summit of all unions to deal with racial injustice, and discriminatory treatment in their representation of African Americans and to address the lack of African American representation in all strata of union activities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: Worker's Civil Rights to Free Association

## **The Right to Organize for Poultry Workers**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP demands that the poultry industry immediately recognize the right of workers to organize, and will take all action it deems appropriate to ensure that poultry employers respect the legal and human rights of workers.*

*The NAACP encourages the appointment of African Americans to the poultry industry's staff, including vice-presidents, that is reflective of union membership; ensure the election of African Americans by creating a process that will ensure African Americans will be elected to office within the hierarchy of this union.*

*The NAACP calls for a summit of all unions to deal with racial injustice, and discriminatory treatment in their representation of African Americans and to address the lack of African American representation in all strata of union activities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: The Right to Organize for Poultry Workers

## Support of the Quincy Mushroom Workers

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the efforts of the African American and other minority workers at Quincy Farms to seek representation from the United Farm Workers of America.*

*The NAACP publicly supports the Quincy Farms mushroom workers' struggle for dignity and justice.*

*The NAACP notifies its branches in areas where Prime mushrooms are sold to actively support the farm workers and to purchase other mushrooms without the Prime label and otherwise support the mushroom workers by:*

- a) Calling and writing Chief Executive Officer Dennis Zensen to ask him to rehire the fired workers and recognize the workers' right of representation.*
- b) Speaking to the manager at their local non-union grocery stores to remove "Prime" label mushrooms.*
- c) Leafleting their local non-union grocery store to ask customers not to buy mushrooms with the Prime label.*
- d) Including information on the Quincy Farms campaign in NAACP branch newsletters and other NAACP publications.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: Support of the Quincy Mushroom Workers

## Aviation Programs for African American Youth

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls for the aviation industry to develop and implement programs which encourage African-American youth to pursue careers in aviation.*

*The NAACP calls for the aviation industry to remove any existing barriers to African Americans working as commercial airline pilots by developing and implementing programs which actively recruit, train, promote and retain African American pilots.*

*The NAACP calls upon the federal government to annually issue reports on the numbers of African Americans applying for and being hired in aviation-related positions with all branches of the military and with the Federal Aviation Administration. If this call is unheeded, the NAACP will issue a report card (similar to that issued for hotels) on the private sector of the aviation industry, specifically grading airlines on the numbers of*

*African Americans working as pilots and in professional administration positions as well as on the numbers of contracted African American businesses.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2000: Aviation Programs for African American Youth
- ◆ 2006: Aviation (Reaffirming the 2000 Resolution)

## **Protecting Retirement and Pension Security**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP denounces practices which keep African Americans, and other minorities from retiring and enjoying their hard earned pensions and benefits.*

*The NAACP denounce the practice of employers going out of business and/or filing bankruptcy and renegeing on negotiated and non-negotiated collective bargaining agreements and using this method to deny workers their earned pension benefits.*

*The NAACP work with the U.S. Congress to develop legislative proposals to provide real retirement security to all American workers that compels employers to set aside adequate amounts of monies that can only be used as retirement funds for its workers and that these funds are portable and guaranteed for life.*

*The NAACP will expose and challenge the corporate, political, and financial interests who seek to undermine guaranteed workers' retirement security.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

2006: In Support of Eliminating “Corporate Carpet Bagging” and its Effect on the Local Community

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Legislative and Political Affairs

## Electoral College

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes the direct election of the President and support only such change in the Electoral College as would bind the electors to vote for the candidate chosen by the voters in their states.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Electoral College

## Federal Grand Jury Reform

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*State and Federal grand juries must be empaneled in the same fashion as petit juries to insure a more equitable composition of these grand juries*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Federal Grand Jury Reform

## Andrew Young, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N.

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports Andrew Young for his forthrightness and courage.*

*The NAACP applauds President Carter for appointing him and for not being swayed by those who would still the voice of this fighter for human rights, this champion of truth, this crier out for justice for all peoples of the earth.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Miscellaneous: Support of Andrew Young, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations

## Senator Edward W. Brooke

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP has examined the record of Senator Edward W. Brooke and finds it to be one of solid performance, which has kept the faith in his nation, his constituency and his people. We seek no special immunity for Edward Brooke; we will accept no double standard. Senator Brooke's performance in public office on public issues is fair game for all who wish to examine the record.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Senator Edward W. Brooke

## **Eastland Amendment on the Fifth Circuit**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the House members of the conference committees to stand firm in their opposition to the Eastland amendment, and The NAACP calls upon Congress to reject S. 11 if the amendment remains in the bill.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Eastland Amendment on the Fifth Circuit

## **Congressional Veto over HUD Regulations**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes giving either House of Congress a veto power over regulations of the Department of HUD, and calls for the defeat of this provision by the Senate. If it is enacted, it supports the President in his stated purpose to ignore such restrictions on Executive powers.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Congressional Veto over HUD Regulations

## **The Equal Rights Amendment**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

The NAACP supports legislation to extend by seven (7) years the time in which the Equal Rights Amendment must be ratified and calls on the federal government to vigorously enforce existing federal policies-requiring nondiscrimination in wages and benefits so that pervasive inequalities based on sex can be eradicated.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

- ◆ 1978: Equal Rights Amendment
- ◆ 1984: The Equal Rights Amendment

## **Harassment of Black Leaders**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP requests that the Inspector General of the U.S. Justice Department investigate the Justice Department for gross misconduct for selective discrimination against African American public and elected officials and minority contributors to political campaigns.*

*The NAACP calls for black leaders and other organizations to publicly discuss the issue of harassment in personal appearances and publications in order to enlist the attention and support of the black community.*

*All NAACP units must immediately commence monitoring communications media and law enforcement agency treatment of black elected officials and other black leaders, and make concerted protest when treatment evidences a double standard.*

*The NAACP calls upon the black community to mobilize its monetary resources to support campaign efforts and to sustain legal defenses when wrongful charges are brought against black officials.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

An ominous threat to the advancement of human rights in our nation is posed by widespread patterns of attack on black leadership, particularly the systematic harassment of black elected officials. This harassment is now upon us in the form of relentless assaults on the integrity and credibility of black elected officials by (white) communications media, law enforcement agencies and other entities.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Sustaining Black Leadership
- ◆ 1998: Discrimination against African American Officials and Minority Contributors to Political Campaigns

## **Mottl Anti-Busing Bill (H.J. Res. 74)**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls each delegate in convention assembled to immediately, from this convention site, contact their, Representatives and urge them to vote against H. J. Res. 74.*

*The NAACP calls our branches in those communities engaged in school desegregation litigation to stand firm in their insistence on the Brown mandate being implemented.*

*Each branch, youth council, college chapter must visit Representatives during the congressional recess and urge their opposition to this resolution.*

*The NAACP calls on the President of the United States, congressional leadership of both parties in the House and Senate, the Congressional Black Caucus to oppose the Amendment.*

*Religious, labor, civil rights, fraternal, legal, educational, business and other groups, including the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, must mobilize to exert the greatest amount of pressure, and the Convention calls upon the National Office to arrange a prayer vigil in Washington, D C, and state capitals, calling the public's attention to the evil intent of this Amendment and urging the nation's rejection.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Mottl Anti-Busing Bill (H.J. Res. 74)

## **Judicial Selection**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the President to increase the number of black appointees, to direct the Attorney General to tighten the selection procedures to assure that no further racist or reactionary appointments are made and to call upon Judge Below to resign.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress to remove Judge Below from office, by impeachment, if he fails to resign.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Civil Rights: Judicial Selection

## **Federal Protection of the Institutionalized**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**



*The NAACP calls upon the Congress to enact legislation to correct this situation and endorse the principle of H. R. 10 and S. 10, which would give the U. S. Attorney General authority to act to protect the rights of institutionalized persons, and further asks Congress not to delete from the bill protection for persons in penal institutions.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Federal Protection of the Institutionalized

## **Anti-Gerrymandering Legislation**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes any law that would restrict legislatures in their effort correct the under-representation of blacks in Congress, state legislatures, and local governing bodies.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Anti-Gerrymandering Legislation

## **Lobby Disclosure Bill (H.R. 81)**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the Congress to modify or eliminate the restrictive features of H.R. 81 or successor legislation, remove criminal penalties from the bill; delete the provision requiring reporting the names of directors so as to encourage healthy expression to the various units of the government.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Lobby Disclosure Bill (H.R. 81)

## **1980 Census Count**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its longstanding commitment to an accurate census count.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Administration to target a substantial portion of funds reserved for special projects for use by black organizations nationwide to inform, educate and ensure that black Americans are not undercounted in the 1980 census.*

*The NAACP calls our branches, state and area conferences and youth units to assist in the identification and recruitment of minority community residents for census-related employment, assist the Census Bureau in its public information education program thrust and serve as census assistance centers to ensure an accurate black count.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Miscellaneous: 1980 Census Count

## **Opposition to Balanced Budget Amendment**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly opposes the adoption of the Balanced Budget Amendment to the U. S. Constitution.*

*The NAACP is unalterably opposed to the convening of a Constitutional Convention and calls upon its branches, youth councils, members and friends to work promptly and diligently to urge state legislatures either to disapprove of such application for the convening of a convention, or where such measures have passed it urge its units to work for rescission by the legislatures of resolutions calling for the convening of such.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

A Constitutional Amendment to balance the Federal Budget would have disastrous and deleterious consequences for the poor, by endangering Federal funding of social and other programs presently aiding poor and black people, and distressed areas of our nation.

The proposed convention process is unprecedented, and is likely to be fraught with political posturing, various agendas, and constitutional uncertainty. There is no way to insure that such a convention would not infringe on civil rights decisions of the courts, based on the Fourteenth Amendment, which have aided and advanced the rights of black people

The NAACP supports a balanced federal budget, but not at the risk of hurting those most in need.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Opposition to Constitutional Convention for Balanced Budget
- ◆ 1995: Balanced Budget Amendment

## **Federal Budget Cuts**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes “across-the-board” budget cuts in “social spending,” particularly because such cuts fall most heavily on poor families and persons in need.*

*The NAACP opposes the adoption of tax cuts for the wealthy and continuation of unnecessary unless and until the federal budget is balanced.*

*The NAACP calls upon the President and Congress to restore the cuts in the budget that affect vitally needed programs.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Administration and the Congress have fit to balance the budget by cutting back on social programs. Most of the budget cuts are directed against vitally-needed social programs to aid the poor, the unemployed and the underemployed. The NAACP believes that the Federal Government has direct responsibility to protect the constitutional rights of all persons in the United States, as well as to assist in providing support for persons in need in areas of common social concerns such as public education; food and welfare assistance; and public housing.

Although the NAACP supports balancing the federal budget, public assistance for persons in need is not the primary cause of the federal budget deficit, nor should such programs suffer a disproportionate share of the burden of reducing the federal budget deficit.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Federal Budget Cuts
- ◆ 1985: Budget Cutting Measures and Recision

## **Complete Count Committees**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon state governors, county executives and municipal mayors to establish Complete Count Committees and include blacks as members of such committees.*

*All NAACP units are directed to contact appropriate government officials to insure that complete count committees are established and include adequate black membership.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Complete Count Committees

## The New Right

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP denounces the ever-growing cult of so-called "new conservatism" and old-fashioned racism in the United States. These forces operate under many guises, names, and causes. This movement is known and recognized by its obvious contempt for the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the U S Constitution; by its open disregard for the 1954 Supreme Court decision of Brown v Board of Education, by its outrageous hostility to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, by its unbridled attacks on the 1965 Voting Rights Act, by its steadfast refusal to strengthen the 1968 Fair Housing Act, by its unintelligent opposition to affirmative action and to court decisions which seek to redress invidious and systematic discrimination long practiced against blacks, and by its Orwellian use of language and disingenuous use of code-words such as "forced busing," "racial quotas," "reverse discrimination," and "getting government off the backs of the people" in an attempt to pander to the anxieties of whites and with the effect of perpetuating odious barriers to equal opportunities for all Americans.*

*The NAACP goes on record as repudiating this ideological movement as injurious to the interests of all Americans to general and black people in particular precisely because it represents the undertow of a rising tide of anti-poor and anti-black behavior by public officials, politicians, major institutions and private citizens, and creates an unwholesome climate of divisiveness in a nation that subscribes to the motto "From Many, One."*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1981: The New Right

## Conference on Civil Rights

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*All units of the NAACP should take immediate and effective steps for voter registration and voter education to elect persons at local, state and national levels in the 1982 elections who are sympathetic to the goals and aims of improving human conditions in America and to become "private attorney generals" fighting discrimination and denial of human rights-wherever they are found.*

*All units of the NAACP should lobby for legislation at all levels of government to address the human needs crises we face. The National Board of Directors of the NAACP should be urged to undertake an immediate legislative mobilization to obtain Federal legislation addressing the human needs of minorities and the National Board of Directors of the NAACP should be urged to conduct a national conference on civil rights, with other civil rights and friendly organizations, to assess the progress made at countering these setbacks and to implement further strategies for combating them.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTION

- ◆ 1982: National Conference on Civil Rights

## Call for Meeting with the President

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon President Reagan to meet with Executive Director Benjamin Hooks and other officials of the NAACP to discuss the concerns of black Americans.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1983: Call for Meeting with the President

## NAACP Political Action Committees

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP commends the Political Action Committees for all NAACP for their voter education and registration efforts.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1984: NAACP Political Action Committees

## U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Enforcement

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP should take all lawful action to deter the Justice Department's erosion of civil rights. The NAACP calls for the immediate reaffirmation of the federal government's commitment to positive action in behalf of all civil rights laws and practices. All branches should redouble efforts to contact their elected officials, State, Federal and local, to express their support for legislative action that will prohibit the Justice Department from taking socially destructive and divisive action.*

*The NAACP will:*

- 1. Seek legislation to require the U.S. Department of Justice, before seeking to modify a consent decree, to certify that the proceeding is in accordance with the law of the circuit, to give public notice to those affected, and to hold a fairness hearing.*
- 2. Institute a civil action seeking to require the U.S. Department of Justice to enforce civil rights laws and agency guidelines and to enjoin them from spending money to under mine existing law.*
- 3. Consider lawsuits against other federal agencies with civil rights enforcement responsibilities, e.g., EEOC, Department of Education, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, etc.*

4. *Initiate 50 City “Truth Squads” to confront federal administration visitors to counteract the misstatements of the law.*
5. *Sponsor community forums to inform the public of the actions of the Reagan administration. Prepare a comparison of the Hayes and Reagan Administrations.*
6. *Monitor the appointments and nominations of judges and oppose the nomination of William Bradford Reynolds as Associate Attorney General.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Various administrations, particularly the Reagan Administration, have sought to retrench civil rights law, eg the Voting Rights Act, tax exemptions for schools that discriminate, anti-affirmative action actions and have often succeeded in appointing to civil rights positions in federal government those who are enemies of civil rights protections for black Americans.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1984: Civil Rights Enforcement
- ◆ 1985: Continuing Historic Civil Rights Remedies
- ◆ 1985: U.S. Department of Justice
- ◆ 1985 Statement of the NAACP on Meeting the Present Civil Rights Crisis

## **Runoffs / Second Primaries**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP hereby directs the National Office to ascertain the effects of the runoff/second primary in light of the NAACP's long-standing policies towards equal political participation for black Americans and other minorities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1984: Runoff / Second Primaries

## **Civil Rights Commission**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP firmly supports the defunding of the US Commission on Civil Rights.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Reagan Administration has destroyed the independence and objectivity of the U S Commission on Civil Rights. The present majority of Commissioners have recommended policy changes antithetical to civil rights interests of affected groups, particularly in cases involving affirmative action and set-asides. The present majority of commissioners are seeking to narrow the definition of discrimination into meaningless terms, and the Civil Rights Commission is issuing recommendations without any fact-finding and refusing to carry out its mandate in numerous other areas.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1984: Defunding the Civil Rights Commission

## **Fair Housing Amendment Act: S.1220**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its commitment to enforcement of the fair housing mandate and endorses the procedure of Administrative Law Judge adjudications for swift resolve of disputes by directing all effort towards passage of S.1220.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1984: Civil Rights Legislation: Fair Housing Amendment Act, S.1220

## **Selection of Federal Judges**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP directs branches to establish “Judicial Watch” committees to gather information on prospective nominees to federal courts and to forward same to the Washington Bureau to be used during confirmation hearings before the U.S. Senate.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: Selection of Federal Judges

## **Presidential Nominations**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the Senate to reject the nomination of Dan Manion and on the President to withdraw his nomination of Dan Manion as nominee for district judge in Indiana. The NAACP should continue to work diligently for the defeat of similar nominees, who by their express statements and/or writings hold views contrary to the laws they would be statutorily required to enforce.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1986: Presidential Nominations

## **Attorney General Call for Resignations**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls for the resignations of these men, Edwin B. Meese, III, William Bradford Reynolds, Clarence Thomas, and Clarence Pendleton.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

United States Attorney General, Edwin B. Meese, I the head of the Civil Rights Division of the U. S. Justice Department, William Bradford Reynolds; and the head of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, Clarence Pendleton, and Clarence Thomas, Chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission have not acted to enforce the letter or spirit of the civil rights laws of the United States as those laws have been enacted from the 1870's to the present.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1986: Call for Resignations

## **Supreme Court Justices Justice William H. Rehnquist and Judge Antonin Scalia**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes the nominations of William H. Rehnquist and Antonin Scalia to the United States Supreme Court and calls upon the Senate to reject them.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1986: Associate Justice William H. Rehnquist and Judge Antonin Scalia

## **Judge Alcee Hastings**



## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon its members to advise congressional representatives of their grave concern and requests that they subject the inquiry against Judge Alcee Hastings to the strictest scrutiny before they take action adverse to Judge Hastings. The NAACP deplors the proposed racially discriminatory action to try Judge Hastings, again, by the Congress; and members of the NAACP advise their elected congressional representatives of their opposition to and their grave concern regarding this attempt to deprive Judge Hastings of his civil rights.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Judge Alcee Hastings

## **Information Privacy**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP seeks legislation that will require those who collect data to: (1) inform the affected individual that data are being collected; and, (2) prior to each dissemination of such data, furnish the affected individual with a copy of the information collected.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Database

## **Judge Robert Heron Bork**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will launch an all-out effort to block the confirmation of Judge Bork.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Robert Heron Bork

## **Monitoring Voting Records**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*All units of the NAACP must research and disseminate the voting and policy records of public officials in their home communities on major issues of*

*concern of black Americans.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Monitoring Voting Records.

## **Encouraging Blacks To Seek Political Office**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP local units are directed to encourage black citizens to seek elective office.*

*The Voter Education Department is directed to provide supportive assistance to local units with "how to" information on nonpartisan campaign activities and education and training information on campaigning.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Encouraging Blacks to Seek Political Office

## **Privatization**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP directs its Washington Bureau and its branches to actively oppose further attempts at privatization of traditional governmental functions.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1988: Privatization

## **U.S. Supreme Court Decisions**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the Congress to swiftly to restore the laws that have been adversely affected by the recent rulings of the Court on civil rights and affirmative action issues and vigorously opposes the intention of the present majority of the US Supreme Court to retract and reduce the civil rights and liberties of minorities and women, and to reverse their present course and dedicate the Court to the establishment of equal opportunity*

*and justice for all. We call upon the President to set forth the details of his civil rights agenda and to give leadership to the court for social and economic justice.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: U.S. Supreme Court Decisions

## **Recent Supreme Court Decisions**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the Congress to act swiftly to restore the laws that have been adversely affected by the recent rulings of the Court on civil rights and affirmative action issues.*

*The NAACP calls upon members and citizenry to, on call, mount such powerful demonstrations that the group gathered in China not long ago will look like a few compared with the millions that we mobilize.*

*The NAACP vigorously opposes the intention of the present majority of the US Supreme Court to retract and reduce the civil rights and liberties of minorities and women, and urge the Justices to reverse their present course and dedicate the Court to the establishment of equal opportunity and justice for all.*

*The NAACP calls upon the President to set forth the details of his civil rights agenda and to give leadership to the fight for social and economic justice.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1989: Recent U.S. Supreme Court Decision

## **Civil Rights and Women's Employment Equity Act of 1991**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP should use all of its power and authority to effect the passage of the Civil Rights and Women's Employment Equity Acts of 1991.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1991: Civil Rights and Women's Employment Equity act of 1991

## Federal Drug Control Funds

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The U.S. government should re-prioritize the use of funds currently being used to control the drug problems by redirecting some of the funds currently being wasted on international interdiction efforts to state and local drug control programs. The NAACP should take the lead in developing cooperation among community leaders, health officer and policy makers to develop a domestic policy of treatment, education and urban development.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1992: Redevelopment of Federal Drug Control Funds

## Violence Against Women Act

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports enactment of the Violence Against Women Act of 1993.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1993: Miscellaneous: Resolution in Support of Violence Against Women Act of 1993

## Resolution in Support of the Hate Crimes Sentencing Act

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the modification of the Hate Crimes Sentencing Act, H.R. 1152, in a manner that will achieve the purpose of deterrence against hate crimes, while ensuring the First and Fifth Amendment protection for the accused.*

*The NAACP urges the swift subsequent passage of the amended legislation, and directs that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the United States Attorney.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1993: Resolution in Support of the Hate Crimes Sentencing Act.

## NAACP Legislative Priorities for 1993

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Voting Rights and Voter Registration--The NAACP strongly supports passage of the Voting Rights Extension Act of 1993 (H.R.174) to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Presley v. Etowah County and Rojas v. Victoria Independent School District. If left unchallenged, the Presley and Rojas decisions will undoubtedly encourage a new generation of voting discrimination against racial and ethnic minorities, in which officials elected in predominately minority voting districts will have few of the powers needed to execute; the duties or functions they were elected to perform.*

*The NAACP will continue to push for passage of the National Voter Registration Act ("Motor Voter" bill), which would increase effective voter registration mechanisms.*

*Crime and Criminal Justice -- The NAACP is deeply concerned about the impact of crime on the African-American community; we will maintain an active role in the debate over crime proposals considered by Congress. The NAACP will promote an "affirmative agenda" in response to crime, including vigorous support for the Brady Handgun Prevention Act (H.R.1025/S.414) and strengthened federal penalties against police brutality,. The NAACP is also concerned about preserving the protection of habeas corpus under the U.S. Constitution.*

*Education -- The NAACP continues to believe that education is a key to political and economic empowerment for African-Americans. The NAACP will fight to continue scholarship assistance to minority students. Chapter I funding for elementary and secondary students must be reauthorized and strengthened. Policies and legislative proposals relating to national standardized testing and tuition vouchers for private and parochial schools enrollment will be monitored and addressed.*

*Health Care Reform -- Health care reform is one of the most critically important issues facing the nation. The NAACP will support prompt passage of a comprehensive health care reform proposal which best meets the needs of the African-American community.*

*Employment Discrimination -- The NAACP supports the Equal Remedies Act (H.R.224/S.17) to remove limits on monetary damages for Title VI claims. We also support the Justice for Wards Cove Workers Act, which seeks to remove the exemption covering the Wards Cove Company from provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1991. The NAACP also supports efforts to repeal the ban on gays and lesbians serving in the U.S. armed forces.*

*Fair Housing Enforcement -- The NAACP is committed to an aggressive campaign of enforcement of the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988. African-Americans continue to be victimized by housing discrimination. Housing discrimination continued to pose significant barriers to African-Americans' enjoyment of constitutionally protected rights in education and employment. The NAACP will press for involvement of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Justice in a coordinated campaign to eradicate housing discrimination in the United States.*

*D.C. Statehood -- The NAACP support passage of the New Columbia Admission Act (H.R.51). Voting rights and voter representation should be constitutionally protected rights for all American citizens. H.R.51 ensures self-determination and congressional representation to over 600,000 politically disenfranchised resident of the District of Columbia.*

*Environmental Justice -- the NAACP will support legislation to establish a program to ensure nondiscriminatory compliance with environmental, health, and safety laws and to ensure equal protection of the public health.*

*Haitian Refugees -- The NAACP strongly opposes "double standards" in the administration of U.S. refugee policy. The NAACP will continue to pursue efforts to block the involuntary repatriation of Haitian refugees without a hearing. The NAACP will also work to ensure humane treatment for HIV-infected Haitian refugees held at the U.C. Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba.*

*Banking Reform -- The NAACP will continue coalition effort to require banks and savings and loan institutions to disclose important information on practices; to end lending discrimination; to reinvest in inner-city communities; and to increase basic services for persons on low or fixed income.*

*North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) -- The NAACP is acutely aware of the potential impact of congressional ratification of the North American Free Trade Agreement on African-American workers. The NAACP will participate in the upcoming congressional debate to ensure that the interests of African-Americans are not overlooked in this process.*

*Budget, Jobs, and Economic growth -- The NAACP will support provisions of the President's economic growth package and tax policy that expand economic opportunities for African-Americans; provide aid to urban areas an specific tax incentives to businesses that Invest in newly created enterprise zones; offer education and training t workers and the unemployed; and invests in programs that help the poor, women and children with regard to health care, education and job training.*

*Public Sector Staffing -- The NAACP will continue its effort to expand the federal presence of African-Americans in important executive, congressional and judicial decision-making positions.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1993: Miscellaneous: Resolution in Support of NAACP Legislative Priorities for 1993

## **Merit System Protection for Federal Employees**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the United States Congress to hold hearings relative to the role and responsibilities of the Merit System Protection Board (MSPB) and its failure to enforce long established federal guidelines and regulations.*

*The NAACP urges the United States Congress to take appropriate action if necessary to ensure the equal protection of the law for all federal workers.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1994: Merit System Protection for Federal Employees

## S. 10 Represents a Grave Danger to Children

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP is concerned with the trying of juveniles as adults, and housing juveniles with adult offenders, and therefore opposes S.10.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: U.S. Senate Bill (S. 10) Represents a Grave Danger to Children

## William Traxler

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP denounces the nomination of William Traxler and strongly urges that his nomination be withdrawn*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1998: United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

## African American History Museum

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP encourages every unit of the NAACP across the country to work in coalition with other like-minded groups and organizations to develop a lobbying campaign to petition the U.S. Congress to provide a site, funding, and support to erect a full-scale, interactive, high-tech historical museum and research center on the mall of the nation's Capitol for the purpose of documenting, educating and telling the story of the African American experience in the United States from its early beginnings in the 17th Century.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2000: U.S. African American History Museum in Washington, D.C.

## Funding Head Start, Early Head Start, and Other Children's Programming

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP seeks full funding of Head Start and increased funding for the Early Head Start Program. The NAACP opposes any efforts to make further cuts to the Early Head Start Program.*

*The NAACP will implement policy and programs, which would inform the public of the harm to children in our communities should budget imperatives be adopted.*

*The NAACP expresses its concern to members of the current administration and members of Congress during meetings of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate.*

*While the NAACP supports tax relief, it does not believe in the sacrifice of healthcare, education or the future of our children; children's programming should not be cut to pay for an oversize tax cut and the NAACP should implore President Bush to keep his promise to "Leave No Child Behind."*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Early Head Start exemplifies the ideals of Head Start and is a national laboratory for providing quality services to support pregnant women, infants, toddlers, and their families. 1,072,014 children and pregnant women were enrolled in the head start and early head start programs in 2003, representing about 50 percent of those eligible to receive Head start services, 981,245 in Head Start and 90,769 in Early Head Start, 31% Black or African American, 31% Hispanic or Latino origin, 27% White, 11% American Indian or Alaska native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander or, Bi-or Multi-Racial or other.

Early Head Start children have a higher cognitive development, demonstrate a higher level of social-emotional development, a higher communication rate, by age 3 have a larger vocabulary, and parents are more supportive of their children in their efforts to develop their language and learning skills.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2001: Resolution on Head Start and Children's Programming
- ◆ 2006: Funding for Head Start and Early Head Start

## **Social Security Lump Sum Death Benefits**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the President of the United States, the Social Security Administration and the United States Congress to initiate a unified effort to immediately enact legislation increasing the LSDB to at least \$2,000, as well as amending the current law to include language authorizing benefit payment to a funeral director, any family member or individual who assists with burial expenses.*

### **BACKGROUND:**



There have been drastic increases in burial and funeral expenses since 1952 when the Social Security Lump Sum Death Benefit (“LSDB”) was last increased. The Lump Sum Death Benefit’s value has been severely diminished by the rate of inflation over a 48 year period. The LSDB was further diminished by a 1981 legislative amendment to the Social Security Act limiting payment of this benefit to a spouse living with the worker at the time of death or a spouse and her child receiving benefits under the worker’s record. The 1981 legislative amendment eliminated payment of the LSDB directly to a funeral home regardless of who the deceased worker lived with. In many instances, under the current law, the LSDB is no longer paid. The NAACP recognizes the dire financial constraints many families endure when a loved one dies. There is no legitimate argument anyone can make to justify the current inadequate LSDB.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2001: Resolution to Increase the Social Security Lump Sum Death Benefits
- ◆ 2003: Resolution to Re-affirm the 2001 Policy to Increase the Social Security Lump Sum Death Benefits

## **Prohibiting Eviction of Law-Abiding Citizens from Public Housing**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National NAACP shall immediately call upon the United States Congress to enact legislation prohibiting the eviction of law-abiding public housing residents who are unaware of and uninvolved in illegal activities around them.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2002: Prohibiting Eviction of Law-Abiding Citizens of Public Housing

## **The Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2002**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports HR 2833 – the Vietnam Human Rights Act and will lobby the U.S. Senate and the President of the United States to pass and sign HR 2833.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2002: Support H.R. 2833: The Vietnam Human Rights Act

## **Higher Education Act (HEA) Drug Provisions**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls for the immediate repeal of the Drug Provisions Section of the Higher Education Act.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2002: Higher Education Act (HEA) Drug Provision

## **Calling Public Officials to Resign for Making Racially Insensitive or Offensive Statements**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP officials publicly oppose racially insensitive, derogatory, inflammatory, comments and actions displayed by public office holders.*

*The NAACP censures, denounces, and will take additional steps as needed to ensure that the highest standards of ethical, respectful, non-discriminatory conduct will be displayed by those sworn to uphold the public trust with integrity and fairness.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: Civil Rights: The NAACP calls for All Public Officials to Resign from their Position when Making Racially Insensitive or Offensive Statements

## **National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP endorses the principle of a federal Affordable Housing Trust Fund as a sound idea to address a very real and serious problem -- the lack of home ownership by racial and ethnic minorities.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act

## **Preventing Chapter 11 Corporate Bankruptcy Abuse**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP officially oppose any abuse of the Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Code by companies found guilty of fraudulent bookkeeping which results in lost to investors, creditors and employees.*

*The National NAACP shall immediately call upon the United States Congress and Senate to enact legislation amending the U.S. Bankruptcy Code to prohibit the filing of Chapter 11 Bankruptcies by companies found guilty of fraudulent bookkeeping.*

*All NAACP units be urged to contact their Congress people and Senators to support an amendment to the U.S. Bankruptcy Code to prohibit the filing of Chapter 11 Bankruptcies by companies found guilty of fraudulent bookkeeping.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: Congressional Legislation to Prevent Chapter 11 Corporate Bankruptcy Abuse

## **Judicial Independence**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the use of public financing for judicial campaigns.*

*The NAACP joins with approved groups of similar interests to address the problems of the influence of money on the judiciary.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: NAACP Calls Upon State Legislatures to Support Judicial Independence

## **Freedom of Information in Vietnam Act of 2003**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports HR 1019, the Freedom of Information in Vietnam Act of 2003 and lobby the U.S. Congress and the President of the United States to pass HR 1019.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: Supporting H.R. 1019 – Freedom of Information in Vietnam Act of 2003

## **The Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2003**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports HR 1587 – the Vietnam Human Rights Act 2003 and will lobby the U.S. Congress and the President of the United States to pass HR 1587.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2003: Supporting H.R. 1587 – The Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2003

## **Patriot Act**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP affirms its strong support for the fundamental constitutional rights and its opposition to the USA Patriots Act and related federal actions that infringe on important civil rights and civil liberties.*

*The NAACP affirms its opposition to the proposed “Patriot Act II”, the domestic Security Enhancement Act of 2003.*

*The NAACP affirms its strong support for the constitutional rights of immigrant communities and oppose racial profiling and the scapegoat of immigrants.*

*The NAACP calls upon all private citizens and organizations, including residents, employers, educators, and business owners, to demonstrate similar respect for civil rights and civil liberties, especially but not limited to conditions of employment and cooperation with investigations.*

*The NAACP urges each public library to conduct a “privacy audit” to determine what paper and electronic records are kept that provide personally identifiable information concerning a patron’s use of the library facilities, including both Internet usage and usage of other materials in the library’s collection. The audit shall also determine the purpose for which such records are kept and the time period for which are kept. Upon completion of the audit, the library shall adopt a records retention policy that minimizes the amount of time that any such personally identifiable information is retained by the library.*

*The NAACP encourages Police/Sheriff’s Departments to:*

- *Refrain from cooperating in any U.S. Attorney Office or FBI requests to participate in the exercise of powers that violate either the state or federal constitution;*
- *Refrain from conducting surveillance on individuals or groups based on their participation in protected First Amendment activities such as political advocacy or religious practice, without reasonable suspicion of criminal activity;*

- *Refrain from collecting or maintaining information about the political, religious or social views, associations or activities of any individual, group, association, organization, corporation, business or partnership unless such information directly relates to an investigation of criminal activities, and there are reasonable grounds to suspect the subject of the information is or may be involved in criminal conduct;*
- *Refrain from establishing a general surveillance network of video cameras, and refrain from deploying facial recognition technology or other unreliable biometric identification technology.*
- *Refrain from the practice of stopping drivers or pedestrians for the purpose of scrutinizing their identification documents without particularized suspicion of criminal activity.*

*The NAACP encourages public schools and institutions of higher learning to provide notice to individuals whose education records have been obtained by law enforcement agents pursuant to Section 507 of the USA PATRIOT Act;*

*The NAACP encourages all City Managers to determine how the new federal powers are being used locally by making the following information public”.*

- *The Names of all detainees that have been held in their City/County as a result of terrorism investigations, where they have been held, circumstances of detention, any charges, whether the detainee has been transferred or deported, whether the detainee has legal representation, and the name of the attorney;*
- *The number of times records have been requested from libraries and book stores under powers granted in the USA Patriot Act;*
- *The number of searches conducted under the powers granted in the USA Patriot Act, in which the subject of the search warrant is unaware that his property has been searched (so-called “sneak and peek” or “black bag” searches);*
- *The number of individuals who have been questioned in connection with terrorism investigations, and the race, ethnicity, and immigration status of those individuals;*
- *The number of wiretaps utilized under the powers granted in the USA Patriot Act;*
- *The number of religious institutions, political rallies, and political meetings;*
- *The numbers of residents is being held in connection with civil immigration violations and the nationality of those being held;*
- *The number of requests made to their Police Department or other city agencies for assistance with the execution of powers that violate either the state or federal constitution;*
- *The number of search warrants executed without notice to the subject of the warrant pursuant to section 213 of the USA PATRIOT Act;*
- *The extent of electronic surveillance carried out in their City/County under powers granted in the USA PATIOT Act;*

- *The number of times education records have been obtained from public schools and institutions of higher learning in their jurisdiction under section 207 of the USA PATRIOT Act.*

*The NAACP encourages all of its branches to ask their respective local municipalities to pass this resolution and to send a letter and a copy of this resolution to their Senators and Congresspersons, urging them to work repeal all provisions of the USA Patriot Act that infringe on civil liberties and to oppose passage “Patriot Act II”, the Domestic Security Enhancement Act of 2003.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: Patriot Act Resolution

## **Legal Support for Indigent Citizens**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urge states and the federal government to provide adequate funding to provide legal counsel for low-income persons in adversarial proceedings where basic human needs are at stake.*

*The NAACP encourages every unit of the Association to spearhead and/or work in coalition with other community groups; lobby for an initiative for state and federal legislation that will increase funding to the LSC, lift restrictions on types of cases LSC can render services and thus enhancing the chances of counsel for indigent claimants in civil cases in order that they may have equal access to justice.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Low-income African-Americans should not be denied access to legal representation in adversarial proceedings to secure basic human needs because of their economic status.

The courts and administrative tribunals provide an avenue for access to justice to those seeking legal redress, but the U.S. legal system is adversarial in nature and requires specialized experience, graduate level education and training for even lawyers to navigate the court and administrative law systems. Many low-income people cannot afford to pay for an attorney to secure their rights in the courts and before administrative tribunals, and inadequate government funding has been provided to give civil legal aid to poor and low-income persons. The Legal Services Corporation (LSC) research estimates show that at least 80 percent of the civil legal needs of low-income Americans are not being met.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2004: Resolution Requesting Legal Support for Indigent Citizens
- ◆ 2006: Legal: Civil Legal Aid for Indigent Litigants

## Workforce Reinvestment and Adult Education Act of 2003

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP urges the United States House of Representatives, The United States Senate, and the President of The United States, in the strongest possible terms to ensure that youth councils remain a mandated subgroup of local workforce investment boards in the Workforce Reinvestment and Adult Education Act of 2003.*

*The NAACP calls upon the Senate to immediately appoint the appropriate conferees to resolve issues related to HR 1261.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2004: Resolution on H.R. 1261, “Workforce Reinvestment and Adult Education Act of 2003” Which Would Amend and Re-authorize the Workforce Investment Act of 1998

## National Civil Rights Campaign

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP is launching a national multi-media campaign to “Save our Children, Families and Communities” by publicly demanding the repeal of draconian provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 and other public laws which undercut American principles of innocence until proven guilty by making bail virtually unattainable to racial and ethnic minorities and the poor.*

*The NAACP supports the repeal of provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 and other laws which allow for asset forfeiture which unfairly penalize the innocent and family members not included in accused crimes and in some cases even serve as nothing more than a scam in some jurisdictions to confiscate, hold and profit from property and cash money.*

*The NAACP supports the repeal of provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 and other laws that result in the unfair implementation of sentencing disparities in our drug enforcement laws which arbitrarily and intentionally target the poor and more harshly the citizens of little financial means.*

*The NAACP supports the repeal of provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 and other laws that create or maintain mandatory minimum sentences and effectively eviscerate much needed judicial discretion.*

*The NAACP supports the repeal of provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 and other laws that institute unfair, biased and unreasonable search and seizure procedures.*

*The NAACP supports the repeal of provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Act of 1986 and other laws that allow and promote surveillance practices that unnecessarily intrude on the right to privacy as intended in our nation’s Bill of Rights.*

*The NAACP supports the repeal of provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 and other laws that do not allow more alternatives to incarceration such as community based drug treatment program and community service.*

*The NAACP supports the repeal of provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 and other laws that allow the transfer of any juveniles to adult courts; or the placement of any juveniles into adult prison facilities.*

*The NAACP supports the repeal of provisions in the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 and other laws that create drug-related guidelines that supercede the guidelines recommended by the United States Sentencing Commission.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2004: National Civil Rights Campaign to Save our Children, Families and Communities from Draconian Laws and Mass- Incarceration

## **Full Congressional Representation for the Residents of the United States Virgin Islands**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly supports legislation for residents of the United States Virgin Islands providing them with full representation of two voting senators in the U.S. Senate and one voting member of the U.S. House of Representatives.*

*The NAACP urges Congress of the United States to pass this legislation and the President of the United States to sign said bill into law as expeditiously as possible.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2004: Action Item in Support of Full Congressional Representation for the Residents of the United States Virgin Islands

## **Proposed Changes to Social Security**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP is firmly opposed to any change in the Social Security Administration system which may result in an increase in vulnerability or in a decrease in benefits.*

*The NAACP goes on record against the rapid increase in outsourcing jobs to other countries and that businesses be encouraged to increase and expand the US work force.*



*The NAACP remains staunchly opposed to any plan that would decrease or in any way jeopardize the guaranteed benefits that America's seniors, disabled or survivors currently receive from Social Security.*

*The NAACP supports all efforts to ensure that Social Security is protected for generations to come, and is committed to working with policy-makers who understand the very real need many people in our communities across the country have for guaranteed Social Security benefits.*

*The NAACP urges everyone who is looking at the issues surrounding Social Security to move cautiously, as the NAACP is well aware that Social Security is currently in solid financial standing and will remain so for years to come.*

*The NAACP strongly urges the Social Security system to use correct actuarial tables to make them reflective of the African American mortality experience.*

*The NAACP, in addition to ensuring the continuity of guaranteed benefits at their current levels, will also focus on the need to address issues that have not changed for decades.*

*The NAACP is firmly opposed to any plan that seeks to privatize or otherwise move the maintenance, control or administration of Social Security benefits to any private non-government entity.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2005: NAACP's Position on Proposed Changes to Social Security

## **Microbicide Development Act**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the Microbicide Development Act (S. 550 and H.R. 3854), which would amend the Public Health Service Act to facilitate the development of microbicides for preventing the transmission of HIV and other diseases.*

*The NAACP calls on the federal government to make a strong commitment to microbicide research and development through funding, and working with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) who are three agencies that have played an important role in microbicide research and development.*

*The NAACP, in the implementation of the research portion of this act, calls on the government to fund only that research that acknowledges or tries to explain the complex interactions among race and the biological and social determinants of health.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: Microbicide Development Act

## Automotive Insurance Companies' Redlining Practices

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirm its opposition to redlining.*

*The NAACP calls upon the United States Congress and State Legislatures to establish law that mandates that automotive insurance companies, when weighing factors relevant to a customer's premium, place a majority of weight on a customer's driving record, miles driven, and driving experience and prohibits automotive insurance companies from primarily focusing on non-driving criteria such as zip codes, area codes, census tracts and credit scores.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: Automotive Insurance Companies' "Redlining" Practices

## Economic Development Administration Funding

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP asks that the EDA community partnership program funds be increased or kept at its current level and avoid any cutbacks by the United States Congress.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: Economic Development Administration Funding

## The Insurance Industry

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the U.S. Congress and, throughout its units, the various State Legislatures to strongly support protective legislation that prevents the Insurance Industry from not extending coverage based upon solely the number of claim incidences reported by customers.*

*The NAACP shall urge Congress and State Legislatures to enact laws that would impose meaningful disciplinary remedies and monetary penalties against Insurance companies that engage in these unethical early cancellation practices and incidents related cancellation practices.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: The Insurance Industry

## Community Development Block Grant Program

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP adds its name to the list of those opposing this proposal. Our Washington Bureau will monitor this Bill for further action and be prepared to call upon Congress to stop this bill from coming out of committee.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2006: In Opposition to President Bush's Proposed Changes to Community Development Block Grant Program

## Fossil Fuel Costs

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls upon the President of the United States to issue an Executive Order of the highest priority for the nation to roll back fuel costs to the lowest levels in the year 2005.*

*The NAACP calls on US Congress for emergency legislation to halt the escalation of gasoline cost within the United States.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 2006: Fossil Fuel

## Actions on Behalf of Victims of Hurricane Katrina and Rita

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP urges the United States President and Congress to ensure that all people living in America, in every area that is prone to floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, or any other catastrophic event are made aware of what to do in any and all emergency situations.*

*The NAACP calls upon the United States President and Congress to immediately issue a formal apology to all victims of Hurricane Katrina and Rita for the failure of a timely and effective governmental response.*

*The NAACP will work for the fair wages and contracts on behalf of African American business owners and African American workers.*

*The NAACP will diligently work for full and proper compensation and health-related assistance for the African American business owners and residents displaced from the Gulf Coast by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.*

*The NAACP calls for a declaration of urgency in the recovery efforts to restore African American and underserved citizens affected by Hurricane Katrina and Rita so that rules can be waived or temporarily altered in order to:*

- 1. Fairly compensate such citizens for losses;*
- 2. Rapidly certify small businesses that wish to become eligible for government contracts (all levels);*
- 3. Expediently process loans for African American businesses;*
- 4. Facilitate prompt acquisition of loans and mortgages by African Americans;*
- 5. Waive payment for existing student loans;*
- 6. Expand eligibility for educational grants, low interest loans and work study programs;*
- 7. Provide Medicaid insurance for families and individuals having incomes of up to 300% of federal poverty.*
- 8. Provide special protections and rules for people who were eligible or would become eligible to vote between August 2005 and December 2008.*

*The NAACP will pursue class action litigation on behalf of the African American residents and business owners in the Gulf Coast Region.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: Pursuing a Class Action Lawsuit and Apology From the United States President and Congress on Behalf of the Victims of Hurricane Katrina and Rita

## **Vacancies at the U.S. Supreme Court**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the President of the United States to solicit and sincerely take into consideration the opinions of a wide variety of people, including those of both major political parties, national civil rights, civil liberties and community based organizations as well as legal scholars from across the ideological spectrum when selecting his next nominee to fill any and all vacancies on the US Supreme Court.*

*The NAACP calls on every member of the United States Senate, from both political parties, to provide the President with advice, guidance and consent on the selection of the next Supreme Court nominee.*

*The NAACP joins many other national civil rights and civil liberties organizations in urging the President to nominate and the United States Senate to confirm, moderate, consensus-oriented jurists, who have a deep respect for the law and for the civil rights and civil liberties of individuals to fill the current vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court, as well as any other judicial vacancies that may occur.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

2006: Calling Upon President Bush to Consult with Members of all Political Parties and Representatives from a Wide Variety of Community Based Civil Rights Organizations when Deciding who to Nominate to Fill Vacancies at the U.S. Supreme Court

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Media and Communications

## Network Discrimination

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the broadcasting systems to immediately take steps to correct these obvious exclusions in such employment. The Association is urged to use its forces to lobby for increment of black employment in this industry.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The population of this nation is approximately 18 per cent minority. The national networks for broadcasting communications and public broadcasting systems which broadcast the news on television receive their authorization for so doing from the people as evidenced by the Federal Communications Commission. A check of these broadcasting systems shows there is a dearth of minority participation on the air with less than 15 black correspondents of more than 250 correspondents (6%). These systems have sworn to the federal government not to deny such employment opportunities on the basis of race, color, sex or religion, and national origin, but these systems are boldly violating this oath. There are many trained blacks who cannot get an opportunity to use their talents and earn a lucrative livelihood. Special programs such as sports are obviously denying blacks and minorities these jobs at a time when the preponderance of professional athletes are black in baseball, track, football and basketball.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Network Discrimination
- ◆ 1978: Media

## Promoting NAACP through the Media

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reasserts its efforts in seeking Public Service Time from both radio and television and using it to the utmost. We direct our branches and youth councils across the nation to redouble their press and publicity efforts in their respective areas in promoting the NAACP and expressing the Association's point of view.*

*NAACP youth and college chapters are urged to monitor local media to television franchises and public access.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Association has gone on record as supportive and urging the use of all types of media in promoting the work of the NAACP, but a number of branches and youth councils are not aware of the availability of these facilities.

As young people are media-conscious, it is germane that the Youth and College Division give attention to this mode of expression.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Use of Media Facilities
- ◆ 1978: Media

## **Cable Television Growth**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the FCC to allow cable to mature through the process of deregulation, particularly as this relates to syndicated exclusively and signal carriage restrictions. We direct our branches to investigate the possibilities of obtaining cable television franchises and public access. We call upon the U. S Supreme Court to revise the 5th Circuit Court's decision in Midwest Video v. FCC to proscribe mandatory public access.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Cable television has the potential to offer blacks and other minorities alternate means for self-expression and economic development.

The growth of cable television has been hampered by governmental regulation.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Cable Television Growth

## **Quality of Children's Television Programming**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the Federal Trade Commission's inquiry into the restriction of television ads in children's programming. We call upon the broadcasting and advertising industries to upgrade and improve the quality of children's television, particularly as it relates to the diffusion of racial tension and isolation in this country.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Blacks and other minority children spend an average 4-7.5 hours per day watching television. There is an average of 9-12 minutes of commercials shown per one-half hour of children's programming. These commercials manipulate children's attitudes by the use of sophisticated techniques like fantasy and animation, rather than communicating the rational objective merits of products.



## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- 1978: Quality of Children's Television Programming

## AT&T Telephone Service and Charges

*The NAACP calls upon the various governmental regulatory agencies (FCC, Congress, State Public Utility Commissions) to immediately take steps to insure the viability and integrity of the American Telephone and Telegraph system of providing high quality telecommunication services at reasonable costs. We call upon the Congress to prevent the extension of unnecessary competition in the areas of terminal equipment and intercity common carrier service. We call upon the Congress to appropriate increased funds and resources to the Common Carrier Bureau of the FCC, in order that they may better regulate telephone service and rates in the interest of all the public, particularly in regard to a revision of the Uniform System of Accounts and Separation Principals.*

### BACKGROUND:

Nationwide cost averaging and rate integration of basic message toll telephone service has provided an equality of service for low income as well as commercial users in both urban and rural areas of the United States,

## ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- 1978: Telephone Service and Charges

## Motion Picture Industry

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The National Executive Director is directed to develop and implement a nation-wide action campaign for all NAACP units to help correct conditions in the motion picture industry, and, if necessary, implement a selective patronage campaign for all NAACP units aimed at motion pictures which have excluded blacks from reasonable participation in front of and behind the camera.*

### BACKGROUND:

Motion pictures since the early 1900s have been one of the most important media in influencing ideas, concepts and beliefs. Black performers, black craft technicians, and black business entrepreneurs in decision-making positions have been largely excluded from employment in the motion picture industry. Theatre-going audiences are receiving a distorted view of the world by films which do not reflect an integrated society. The NAACP and the motion picture studio representatives are presently in negotiations to try to rectify this appalling unemployment situation.

Blacks constitute 30 per cent of the theatre-going audience which amounts to well over \$400 million annually. The NAACP's Executive Director, Benjamin L Hooks, has initiated a Fair Share Campaign calling on all well-thinking people not to spend their dollars on motion picture products that do not give blacks their fair share in employment and visibility.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1982: Civil Rights: Motion Picture Industry

## **Media Coverage of the 74th Annual NAACP Convention**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The 74th Annual Convention of the NAACP deplores this irresponsible reporting and calls upon the media to accurately and fairly report the concerns and activities of the NAACP.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The 74th Annual Convention of the NAACP, convened in New Orleans, Louisiana, has had numerous workshops devoted to the varied social and political concerns of black Americans, but many elements of the media have ignored these substantive issues and have chosen instead to highlight an internal dispute which was resolved prior to the Convention. Many elements of the media have suggested and speculated that the NAACP, the largest civil rights organization in the country, with more than 1,800 units throughout the 50 states which are actively engaged in activities to promote the welfare and civil rights to black Americans, is irrelevant.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1983: Emergency Resolution: Media Coverage of the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual NAACP Convention

## **Minority and Female Enhancement Programs**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP encourages its members to do business with companies that advertise in black-owned media. The NAACP should use its influence with major corporations to encourage them to advertise on black-owned radio and TV stations.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Minority and Female Enhancement Programs

## Image Awards

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP salutes NBC Television for its continuous televising of the NAACP Image Awards, but urges the network to make every reasonable effort to televise the program during prime time as other award programs of this nature are televised.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The *NAACP Image Awards* showcases the finest talent in America.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1988: Image Awards

## Universal Service Funding Methodology

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes any efforts to change the Universal Service Funding methodology. The NAACP encourages its units to communicate with local, state and federal government to encourage them to increase funding from this Universal Services Fund and to enhance services to rural and inner-city health care, rural and inner-city schools and rural and inner-city libraries. The NAACP encourage its units to communicate to the African American community and to the federal, state and local elected officials the importance of maintaining a USF funding methodology that will not harm the very people that the USF was created to protect.*

*The NAACP urges that the Universal Service Fund, which is so vital to bringing technology to all schools and libraries, be preserved and that Congress not end or change the execution of the FCC's enabling order. Congress must support a fully funded education element ("E-rate") of the Universal Service Fund in 1998 and in subsequent years capable of supporting a \$2.25 billion commitment to schools and libraries. The NAACP, to underscore its support of this initiative, urges members to write and call their U.S Representatives and Senators conveying their strong support of the fund.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Universal Service Fund ("USF") was established by the federal government to subsidize telephone service in low income communities, as well as rural and inner-city areas of the country where the cost of providing basic telephone service is high. It was expanded by Congress in 1996 to provide support for rural health care providers, schools and libraries. This USF should also be used to enhance services to rural and inner-city healthcare, rural and inner-city schools and rural and inner-city libraries.

The Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) is currently considering changing the way the Universal Service Fund is funded from the current funding mechanism which charges on a usage basis (revenue), and long distance users are charged by their carriers based on the minutes of long distance they use while the proposed new funding mechanism would charge by subscriber (connection), and each long distance customer would pay their long distance carrier the same amount regardless of minutes used. A drastic shift in USF funding support would hardest hit low-income, residential and low-volume long distance users, a disproportionate number of whom are minorities represented by the NAACP. This shift in USF funding support from a usage basis to a subscriber base would mean that residential customers would pay the same as business customers and low volume callers.

On May 8, 1997, the FCC released an order which established the federal universal service support mechanisms for school and libraries, known as the "Universal Service Fund". The Fund is intended to insure that all students regardless of income or socio-economic background, have access to state-of-the-art technology in their classrooms and libraries. The Fund was designed to be available in 1998 and subsequent years at a level of \$2.25 billion per year. Some large telecommunications companies and others are intent upon reducing the size of the fund or eliminating the fund entirely. The current revenue-based funding methodology provides a very equitable, non-discriminatory and competitively neutral approach to funding the USF fund and the proposed alternative connection based methodology does not.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1996: Preserving a Strong Education Commitment in the Universal Service Fund
- ◆ 2004: The NAACP Calls upon the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to Carefully Weigh the Impact of any Intended Reforms to the Universal Service Funding (“USF”) Methodology to our Nation’s Most Vulnerable

## **Positive Portrayal of Blacks by the Media**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon all Americans to join it in the struggle for a more positive and accurate portrayal of blacks by the television and motion picture industries as well as all other forms of mass media communications in accordance with the dignity that their contributions to this nation dictate. The National NAACP calls for a national conference on the role of the media and how it perpetuates segregation in the United States, especially in the use of sensationalism in reporting, and seek the support of other organizations in sponsoring the conference.*

*We direct all NAACP units to immediately implement this resolution by close and careful monitoring and visiting local TV, radio and press establishments to express the NAACP's serious disagreement with and concern about any practices which portray blacks in a negative or stereotypical fashion and to strongly encourage a positive response from these establishments to these expressed concerns.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP and the "coalition against the airing of 'Beulah Land'" managed to focus significant and needed national attention on the long-standing practice of the television and motion picture industries of portraying blacks in a negative and stereotyped fashion. Nevertheless, the mass media

continues to create and project negative and stereotypical images of black Americans to the world. The practice of portraying blacks in a negative image also extends to the tendency of television and radio news departments to give emphasis to the negative aspects of news and reports concerning and/or involving blacks. Some black media employees, themselves, participate in, and serve to perpetuate, these practices.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

1980: Positive Portrayal of Blacks by the Media

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Memorials

## James Chaney, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP advocates that James Chaney, Michael Schwerner, and Andrew Goodman be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for their sacrifice, and that the awards be presented to their families.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2006: Civic Engagement: NAACP Advocates the Presidential Medal of Freedom be Presented to the Families of James Chaney, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman

## Gloster B. Current

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP commends Gloster B. Current's long and effective and tireless services as volunteer and staff member and expresses its gratitude and appreciation for a job well done.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Gloster B. Current

## Mrs. Myrlie Evers-Williams

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP publicly acclaims its unqualified support of Mrs. Myrlie Evers-Williams and her efforts in behalf of our beloved NAACP.*

*The NAACP goes on record as commending Mrs. Evers-Williams for her unwavering dedication and self-sacrifice, and her inspiration and leadership in and for the NAACP.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1996: Commendation for Mrs. Myrlie Evers-Williams

## Gertrude Gorman

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP expresses a debt of gratitude to Ms Gorman for long, dedicated and efficient services to the Association and mankind.*

*Appropriate recognition of valiant service should be accorded Ms. Gorman.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Gertrude Gorman

## Dick Gregory

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP goes on record lauding the unselfish contribution of Dick Gregory and his family to the struggle for human and civil rights, and calls upon its units and the National Office to assist the Gregory family in any manner possible.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Dick Gregory

## Ruby Ruffin Hurley

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP goes on record honoring a heroic leader, Mrs. Ruby Ruffin Hurley.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Ruby Ruffin Hurley

## James Johnson

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**



*The NAACP dedicates its 1985 ACT-SO Program to the loving memory of the gallant, fallen freedom fighter, James Johnson.*

*The NAACP acknowledged with great regret and sorrow the passing of Mr. James Johnson and will stand in silence for one minute during plenary sessions, in his memory.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: James Johnson

## **James Kemp**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Those of us who have served for a period of time on the Resolutions Committee have been subjected to such a person who displayed all these characteristics: cantankerous, belligerent, over-assertive, downright hard to deal with; and a facilitator, a great compromiser, or a balm on otherwise troubled waters. It is with great honor that the NAACP salutes James Kemp, our former Chairman, compliments his stewardship and praises his service and stalwart steering of this Committee for over 12 years. We love you, Jim Kemp.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Special Resolution on James Kemp, the Immediate Past Chairman of the Resolutions Committee

## **The Honorable Joseph Kennedy**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP extends its sympathy to Judge Joseph Kennedy's family, and advises them that because we share their loss, we grieve with them; but in his honor, we pledge to complete the job of black emancipation.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: In Memoriam, The Honorable Joseph Kennedy

## **Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr.**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP extends its sympathy to the Mitchell family and express our collective grief in the loss of this civil rights warrior and hereby pledge to continue his tradition of dignity, courage, steadfastness and diligence in his memory and honor.*

*The NAACP seeks a grant to establish a Clarence M Mitchell, Jr. Internship in the Washington Bureau in his honor.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1984: Civil Rights: In Memoriam—Clarence M. Mitchell Jr.

## **Paul Robeson**

*Every unit of the NAACP should mount a viable campaign, including letter writing, lobbying, petitioning, and any means possible to ensure that the U.S. Postal Service honor Paul Robeson, a great American, with a commemorative stamp, as quickly as possible.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1997: Postal Stamp Honoring Paul Robeson

## **Roy Wilkins**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP expresses its sadness at your absence and extends to you and Mrs. Wilkins our best wishes, our love and affection, our prayers for your health and happiness, and our hopes for your presence at the 71st Annual Convention in Miami, Florida.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 1979: Roy Wilkins

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

*Military and Veterans' Affairs*

# Administrative Discharges

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly demands that the service cease and desist its issuance of a separation certificate with characterization of any kind, except bad conduct and dishonorable pursuant to the sentence of court martial, and that the President of these United States, Commander-in-Chief of all the Armed Services, recall all outstanding Certificates of Separation (DD form 214) bearing codes of characterization and reissue a simple Separation from the Military Service Certificate.*

*The NAACP, through its branches and youth units, calls upon House and Senate Committees of the Judiciary and the Committee of the Armed Services to hold hearings, establish laws, procedures and directives to correct these disparities.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

As coded honorable discharges of the armed services generally have as much adverse impact on the recipient as those released from service with a Bad Conduct Discharge, any characterization on an Honorable Discharge (DD214) is effectively a punitive action, irrespective of the position taken by the armed services with regard to the issuance of an "Administrative Discharge."

Administrative discharges, bearing coded characterizations which indicate that the recipient's services and performance while in the military has been "less than honorable," have been found to be the most abused, biased, racially discriminatory and punitive action in use within the military to separate its personnel who are found to be unsuited or unable to cope with the rigorousness of the military life. Such certificates are widely used by the civilian section as a base and reference for judging the employability of young people coming into the labor market. Such discharges tend to deny those persons equality of opportunity for re-entry into their respective communities as productive citizens, access to jobs, and apprenticeship in schools and colleges and professional training

Hundreds of thousands of young men and women who saw service in the military are burdened with the stigma of the administrative discharge, virtually impossible to change during their lifetime without costly legal assistance.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Separation from Use Military Service Certificate
- ◆ 1985: Bias to Re-Enlistment

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Commander-in-Chief of the Military Forces (President), the Secretary of Defense and the Secretaries of Transportation and Commerce (Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, respectively) to elevate the Office of Equal Opportunity, within their respective commands, to the level of Assistant Secretaries with all the powers, duties and resources to make equal opportunity a functioning and effective reality in the military and those other branches of the uniformed services.*

*The NAACP is directed to create an ad-hoc committee to evaluate the internal Affirmative Action Programs of the Federal Government, particularly the Department of Defense, and recommend specific actions that are designed to implement and affirm the goals of affirmative action.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

It has been decades since Executive Order 9981 was issued by President Truman declaring it to be “the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the Armed Services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin.” The Armed Services have made some progress in the area of equality of opportunity and race relations, although stereotyping of minorities still exists in many instances, the number of black officers is still too low, institutional discrimination and covert bigotry is still resulting in the unequal dispensation of military justice, and lower officer efficiency report ratings are given to minority officers, and racial imbalance exists in many lower management fields and in the corps of officers of the National Guard and Reserves.

In carrying out President Truman’s mandate, the Service and the Defense Department established an Office of Equal Opportunity which has been a “toothless tiger,” in that staff appointed or detailed to this assignment are hand picked by the Command and cannot investigate a case, call witness or issue any order(s). The Office of Equal Opportunity must be placed on an equal status with other Assistant Secretaries if it is to be effective.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: The Department of Defense
- ◆ 1985: Office of Deputy Secretary, OEO

## **Judicial Review**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress to remove the Veterans’ Administration exemption from Judicial Review and provide for meaningful judicial review of the decisions of the Board of Veterans Appeals.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Judicial Review

## Military Installations

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon our NAACP regional, state, county and local units in close proximity to military bases to monitor Equal Opportunity Programs at those installations.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Military Institutions

## Board of Appeals of the Veterans Administration

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the President and the Congress to make adjustments resulting in the inclusion of black and other minority representation on the Board of Appeals, which will give democratic credence to said Board.*

*The NAACP call on its 2100 units to write their members of the Congress to support HR 585.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

There are a disproportionate number of black veterans coming before the Appeals Board for redress of a myriad of problems, generally relating to earned benefits such as education, finance, job opportunity and training and disability benefits. Many of the veterans perceive discrimination in the Armed Services and the Veterans Administration as the basic cause of their problems and complaints. As the Board of Appeals of the Veterans Administration has no representation of black and other minority members sensitive to and aware of their special assorted problems that have yet to be dealt with, black veterans often feel unheard.

HR 1959 and HR 330 were proposed in the 98th Congress to Title 38 of the U.S. Code and were re-introduced in the 99th Congress as HR 585. This revision is long overdue to establish procedures for the adjudication of claims for benefits under laws administered by the Veterans Administration. The Veterans Administration is currently the only governmental agency that cannot be taken to court for errors or unjust decisions handed down by the administrators of claims and entitlement benefits of veterans, their dependents or survivors.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Board of Appeals of the Veterans Administration
- ◆ 1985: Veterans' Affairs

## Military Registration and Draft

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP advocates for the rights of blacks to serve in peacetime and not be limited to wartime service.*

*The NAACP will oppose legislation that would restrict the recruitment and upgrading of minorities in the Armed Forces.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Military Registration and Draft

## Veterans' Benefits

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP opposes any legislation which would deny the Veterans Administration the discretion to determine eligibility for veterans' benefits, for any condition of service except for those individuals who are discharged from the Armed Services under dishonorable conditions.*

*All NAACP units call upon their respective members of Congress to defeat H.R 6688 and H.R 4367.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Veterans' Benefits

## Members of Hate Groups

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National Office urges the Department of Defense to have all known members of hate groups, neo-Nazis, Ku Klux Klansmen, be removed from all military units as their presence is a threat to cohesiveness and performance which is paramount to successfully carrying out the mission of the U S Armed Forces.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Members of Hate Groups

## Black Officer Recruitment, Promotion, and Retention

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National Office urges the Department of Defense to institute a vigorous military career counseling program for black officers to ensure recruitment and retention in all branches of the Armed Forces, and to decrease the practice of "selecting out" black officers as they approach field grade.*

*The NAACP urges the Department of Defense to vigorously support the NAACP'S efforts to combat inequities in the military's recruitment, training, promotion, education, and the reduction of overseas forces. The National staff will monitor this interaction and disseminate information related to this to all chapters and institutions of higher learning with predominantly black enrollment.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Leadership role models are essential to the upward mobility and harmony of all organizations. There has been a rapid increase in the number and relative percentage of black soldiers in Army units, particularly combat arms units, while the black officer strength has remained virtually constant and has actually begun to decline in the field grades.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Black Officer Recruitment, Promotion, and Retention
- ◆ 1991: Armed Forces

## Black Clergy

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National office urges the Department of Defense to institute a vigorous recruitment program for black chaplains from religious denominations represented in black communities.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Black Clergy

## Blacks in Armed Forces' Media

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**



*The NAACP National Office urges the Department of Defense to institute a special recruitment and training effort for blacks, to inn ease the number of black soldiers and civilians assigned to all media positions, including editorial and management positions, particularly in overseas locations.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Blacks in Armed Forces' Media

## **Recruitment of Blacks for the Education and Training Systems of the Armed Forces**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National Office urges the Department of Defense to immediately recruit, train, and assign more minority students and professionals in order to assure that a viable equal employment opportunity program is in place, and that said people are fully integrated into the educational and training systems of the United States Department of Defense. The NAACP pledges its firm support of attempts to both increase the minority representation of administrators in the Department of Defense Dependency-Schools and for a wider distribution of its placement opportunities.*

*The NAACP urges the Department of Defense to publish scales of pay and conditions for this kind of employment.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Department of Defense Schools conduct the largest range of educational programs and degree granting educational programs in the US with an enrollment equivalent to the enrollment of the largest universities in the U S combined.

There has been an increased enlistment of minorities in the military service, but the percentage of minority teachers and administrators is disproportionately low, limiting minority students' association such minority role models.

Furthermore, black administrators are totally missing in various geographical areas of the Department of Defense Dependency Schools system.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Recruitment of Blacks for the Armed Services' Education, and Training Systems
- ◆ 1983: Equal Opportunity

## **Education and Communication Services**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP National Office is directed to use its Military and Veterans Affairs Committee to increase the level of communication and education to military chaplains and other military units.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Education and Communication Services

## **Equal Employment Opportunity in Armed Forces' Civilian Personnel Office**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Federal Government to create an Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) which would have the responsibility of monitoring and implementation of EEO regulations over the entire U.S. military organization, including civilian personnel.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1981: Equal Employment Opportunity in Armed Forces' Civilian Personnel Office

## **Nuclear Weapons Freeze**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports international efforts to freeze all production, research, manufacture and deployment of nuclear weapons.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1983: Civil Rights: Nuclear Arms Weapons Freeze

## **Awards Commemorating Black Military Heroes**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the Department of Defense to establish annual awards relating to the accomplishments of such black military heroes as General Daniel "Chappie" James, General Roscoe Robinson, Jr., and Done Miller.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1991: Armed Forces

## Downsizing of the Military

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP urges the Department of Defense to conduct a thorough review of recruitment policies.*

*The Department of Defense is directed to set up a special system to allow for the review of performance evaluations and career files that contain questionable information and other factors the applicant may deem to be unjust.*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1992: Downsizing of the Military

## Discriminatory Practices by the U.S. Armed Services

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP calls upon the Department of Defense and the Military Departments to rededicate and redouble their commitment to eradicating racial discrimination by (1) increasing the human resources and financial resources allocated to promoting equal opportunity, and (2) establishing an appeal board composed of representatives from each Service to impartially review military discrimination complaints forwarded to the NAACP.*

*The National NAACP will conduct a complete investigation into charges of deeply rooted bias and discrimination by the U.S. Armed Services against minorities and female personnel.*

### BACKGROUND:

The NAACP has worked to ensure that African American servicemen and women receive fairness and equity, and we are aware of the vast strides made by the military in desegregation and in granting opportunities. We are aware also of the December 1995 murders of African American civilians by military personnel; the racial overtones and implications of the 1997 military investigations of sexual misconduct; and the numerous allegations of racial discrimination received from military personnel around the world

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1994: Discriminatory Practices by the U.S. Armed Services
- ◆ 1997: Military Discrimination

## Unanimous Vote Required for Courts Martial

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP Office of Veterans Affairs and the Office of the General Counsel are hereby called upon to conduct a study of relevant military court procedures and to report their findings to the Executive Director for further action including the possible recommendation of appropriate Congressional action.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1994: Unanimous Vote Required for Courts Martial

## Veterans Affairs Committees

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its commitment to Veterans Affairs and calls upon its units to reactivate their Veterans/Armed Service Committee and to provide information and guidance to the returning Veterans and surviving families of deceased service personnel.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1994: Veterans and Armed Services Affairs

## Honors for World War II Veterans

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

The NAACP recognize the efforts and outstanding accomplishments of many African-American soldiers who fought in World War II who have been ignored and whose rightful honors were denied by order of then-General Eisenhower.

The NAACP calls for African-American troops who volunteered for combat in World War II or their heirs to receive full recognition from the Department of Defense including, where appropriate, certification of their original grades or ranks together with financial compensation for pay lost by reduction in rank to avoid outranking white troops.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2001: World War II Veterans Deserve Justice

## Discrimination in and around Military Bases - White Supremacists

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the adoption of a U S Service-wide zero tolerance policy on extremism in the military. The NAACP urges the U S Congress to amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to provide a section that makes acts of white extremist violence, terror or graffiti crimes with enhanced penalties. The NAACP urges the DoD to re-evaluate the Armed Services' existing policy on white supremacist activity, especially as it relates to the language of active vs. passive participation.*

*The NAACP urges the DoD to develop a Military Human Rights with responsibilities comparable to Civil Rights for the purpose of monitoring equal opportunity issues. The NAACP also urges the Department of Defense to increase the annual funding and staffing of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) to continue its ability to provide quality training.*

*The NAACP urges all NAACP Branch Chapters to stay vigilant in exposing how white supremacist groups in our nation and abroad impact our schools, military installations, and communities. Local NAACP Branches should establish ongoing relationships with the administration of military bases in their areas, as well as, with the officers and enlisted personnel by conducting on-base membership campaigns, holding NAACP meetings and other NAACP events on base.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1996: Discrimination in and around Military Bases - White Supremacists

## Black Veterans Deserve More Support

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will do more to bring attention and awareness to the plight of black veterans in America.*

*The NAACP is directed to organize an annual workshop at the National Convention and state conference conventions to bring awareness to the unique concerns confronting black veterans in this country, and to formulate recommendations for solutions to be submitted to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of the United States of America.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2004: Black Veterans Deserve More Support

## Mandatory Draft of Males and Females Ages 18-26

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will commission a series of studies to specifically outline the advantages and disadvantages of a mandatory military draft to determine, among other things:*

- 1. What safeguards will exist in a new mandatory draft law that will prevent disproportionate numbers of Black men and women from being drafted?*
- 2. Will draft exemptions be included in the law that favor advantaged or wealthy youth versus less advantaged or poverty-stricken youth?*
- 3. What are the present casualty rates and are minority groups suffering casualties at a higher rate than Whites?*
- 4. What safeguard for the one child in the family?*

*The NAACP calls on the Armed Services Committee of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate along with the Congressional Black Caucus and the Hispanic Caucus to hold hearings and make public the advantages and disadvantages of a mandatory draft.*

*The NAACP is opposed to any form of mandatory military draft until studies have been completed showing it will not disproportionately affect poor African-Americans and other minority youth.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2005: Mandatory Draft of Males and Females Ages 18-26

## **Supporting the Establishment of a Timeline for U.S. Military Activities in Iraq**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the United States government to announce a plan for withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from Iraq.*

*The NAACP urges the United States government, at the earliest possible date, to turn over all military operations in Iraq to the elected Government of Iraq and provide for the prompt and orderly withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from Iraq.*

*The NAACP supports and urges the United States government to initiate such a withdrawal as soon as possible.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2005: Supporting the Establishment of a Timeline for U.S. Military Activities in Iraq

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

*Religious Affairs*

## Religious Affairs

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We call upon the churches to encourage, now more than ever, the registration and political participation by all of their members to insure that the goal to which we jointly subscribe shall be achieved.*

*We further call upon our partner, the church, to join with us in our renewed and strengthened pursuit of affirmative action plans and their implementation, not only in employment, but in every area where blacks have been systematically and historically disadvantaged.*

*Churches are asked to assist us in monitoring affirmative action plans to prevent any backsliding by employers, school officials and government agencies.*

*Beyond this, we reaffirm our previous resolutions which called upon churches to sponsor and cooperate in such activities as NAACP membership drives, fund raising, economic development, and other programs designed to advance the cause of equality of opportunity and economic sufficiency.*

*Further, we recommend to churches that they, in their own business affairs, support affirmative action employers, minority businesses and those others who support the economy of the black community.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Traditionally, the church and the NAACP have been partners in the struggle for equality of opportunity for all people, and it is imperative that this partnership continue and be strengthened.

We would in this time of high unemployment among blacks call for even greater activity between the church and the NAACP in attacking those forces that would deny blacks free access to the job market and that would abandon all plans which call for affirmative action.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Religious Affairs

## One Church, One Child

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*All NAACP units are encouraged to assist local One Church, One Child programs in recruitment of black foster and emergency shelter homes to accommodate the increasing numbers of children entering foster care.*



## **BACKGROUND:**

Traditionally the NAACP and the Black Church have worked together to strengthen the moral fiber of the Black community.

The One Church, One Child concept was established to inform and encourage the black congregations to be further involved in the permanency for black children who are in foster care systems, homeless, neglected, abused, and/or other kinds of the life threatening situations, and to provide these children with the appropriate black families.

Despite massive recruitment efforts in this program, as of January, 1993, it has only placed over 40,000 black children in homes.

A need continues to exist to find good homes for older teenagers and siblings groups.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1992: One Church, One Child

- ◆ 1994: One Church, One Child

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Voting

## Get out the Vote

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP branches, state conferences, college chapters and youth councils are directed to give voter registration and voter participation high priority so that the full political weight of blacks will be felt this year.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Get out the Vote

## Voting Representation for D.C. Residents

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports full voting representation for the residents of the District of Columbia.*

*NAACP endorses Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and Senator Joseph Lieberman's "No Taxation Without Representation Act" (H.R. 1285 and S. 617, respectively) and other similar solutions for full voting representation for District of Columbia residents.*

*To ensure bipartisan support in the U.S. House and U.S. Senate for the "No Taxation Without Representation Act," NAACP strongly encourages our members to contact their Representatives and their Senators to ask them to be a co-sponsor of this important legislation.*

*The NAACP, through its national, regional and local officers and its members, will work to better raise awareness and to educate the American citizenry about this injustice and take action towards a solution.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Over half a million people living in the District of Columbia, capital of our democratic nation, continue to be denied the right to vote for representation in the national government, the United States Congress.

District of Columbia residents bear all the burdens of citizenship, pay over \$3 billion annually in federal income taxes, and fight in our nation's wars.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States has found the United States to be in violation of international human rights law for its disenfranchisement of District of Columbia residents. The District of Columbia is one of only two Federal districts in the world where the residents have no right to select a representative with the right to vote in the legislature.

No people can be properly represented in a democracy unless they themselves elect those representatives.

We believe D C. Citizens are unjustly treated, and a majority of them are black Americans.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: H.J Resolution 534
- ◆ 2002: Resolution in Support of Norton Resolution Urging City Governments and State Legislatures to Support Full Voting Rights for the District of Columbia
- ◆ 2004: Support of Full Voting Rights for All Citizens of the United States, Including the Residents of the District of Columbia
- ◆ 2005: Re-Affirming Support of Full Voting for all Citizens of the United States, Including the Residents of the District of Columbia (Reaffirming 2004 Resolution)
- ◆ 2006: Civic Engagement: In Support of the Elected Congressional Representatives with Full Voting Rights for all Citizens of the United States, Including Residents of the District of Columbia

## **Census of Voting and Registration**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly urges the Congress to appropriate the necessary funds to conduct this important project.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

When Congress extended the Voting Rights Act in 1975, it provided for a census of voting and registration to help in enforcement of the Act and, more importantly, to help it in any future consideration of the Act. Such a census has been planned for the 1978 election. Unfortunately, as yet no money has been appropriated by Congress to conduct the census. The money for it is in danger of being deleted from the appropriations bill for the Department of Commerce, whose Census Bureau would conduct the census.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Census of Voting and Registration

## **Registering Young Voters**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*All branches, college chapters and youth units are encouraged to sponsor voter registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns, particularly among the newly enfranchised.*

*Youth councils, college chapters and branches are directed to seek legislation in state legislatures and in the Congress making it lawful for every high school principal to register all eligible high school students. Registered high school students must be deputized under such legislation to register other eligible youth.*

*All activities carried out under this resolution must be coordinated under the direction of the NAACP Director of Registration and Voting.*

*The Youth and College Division must develop a special project "1980 Vote 18 Alert" to register 18-to-25-year olds before the 1980 election.*

*The national office must lend every assistance possible, especially materials, to help chapters realize the above goals. The NAACP calls upon all NAACP units to work locally to ensure that instruction in the nonpartisan political process is included in all levels of the public school system.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP recognizes that registration and voting are essential tools that must be used by minority citizens. The NAACP, particularly its Youth and College Division, provided the leadership that resulted in the enfranchisement of eighteen-year-olds in America. There has been a steady decline in voter participation in national elections as indicated by the fact that in 1960, 63.1 per cent of the electorate voted while only 55.4 per cent participated in the 1972 Presidential election.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Youth Work: Eighteen-Year-Old Voter Registration
- ◆ 1978: 1980 Election and the 18-Year-Old Vote
- ◆ 1981: Voter Education
- ◆ 1987: Voter Participation among Black Youth

# **Supporting Reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP strongly reaffirms its support for extension of the 1965 Voting Rights Act for at least another ten years, urges the President's full, public support immediately and opposes any and all modifications or amendments which would diminish or impede the effective enforcement of the Act, and call upon the President and Congress to support those amendments to the Act which would make "effect," not "intent," the measure of electoral change propriety and legality in the covered states.*

*The NAACP supports a reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act that includes passage of the sections that will otherwise expire and that addresses voter discrimination, harassment, intimidation and other abuses of the electoral process since the 1982 reauthorization.*

*The NAACP will roll out an aggressive, grass roots national campaign to support the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act. The NAACP will conduct state and local hearings to develop and full and factual record of voting rights violations.*

*In order to protect the right of blacks to participate in the voting process and to have their vote impact on the body politic we call upon the Congress to enact a constitutional amendment outlawing literacy tests as a precondition to voting, so that the present prohibition against literacy tests will become a part of the permanent law of the land, not subject to the momentary passions of public opinion or politics.*

*The NAACP endorses and calls upon the Congress and President of the United States to reauthorize and strengthen the expiring provisions of the Voting Rights Act for at least 25 more years, until August 6, 2032 or later.*

*The NAACP reaffirms its strong support of the Fannie Lou Hammer, Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006.*

*The NAACP reaffirms its call on the U.S. Congress and the President of the United States to enact the Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006 prior to the adjournment of the 109th Congress.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act (VRA) into law in 1965 to supplement the Fifteenth Amendment. The VRA is designed to prevent intimidation, voter harassment, the poll tax, language barriers, literacy tests, racial gerrymandering, and other tools of disenfranchisement. The VRA has increased minority participation in the political process and empowered minority communities to elect candidates of choice to local, state, and federal office.

In August 2007, certain provisions of the VRA are set to expire. These sections include: Bilingual Election Procedures (Section 203 and 204(f)(4), requiring the states of California, Texas and New Mexico and numerous local municipalities to provide bilingual election procedures for significant language minority populations, Covered Jurisdictions (Section 5), which calls for jurisdictions with histories of voter exclusion and disenfranchisement prove to federal authorities that any proposed changes to voting laws or procedures will not negatively impact minority voters, and Observer Deployment (Section 6-9), which allows for the deployment of poll observers and federal experts to jurisdictions with histories of voter exclusion.

If these sections are allowed to expire, the results could be detrimental to African American and other racial and ethnic minorities in their ability to participate in the electoral process.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Voting Rights

- ◆ 1981: Legislative Affairs and Political Action: Voting Rights Act of 1965 - Extension
- ◆ 2005: Supporting Reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act
- ◆ 2005: Legislative Affairs and Political Action: Reauthorization of Expiring Portions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965
- ◆ 2006: Legislative Affairs and Political Action: NAACP Strongly Supports the Immediate Renewal and Reauthorization of the 1965 Voting Rights Act

## Voter Education

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP continues to stress voter education projects and increase its efforts to inform voters of the need to exercise the fundamental right to vote.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Minorities and poor people have long been affected by disenfranchisement tactics, i.e., gerrymandering. Although there is an increased number of blacks and minorities on the voting rolls, many continue to be unfamiliar with the local laws regarding the electoral process.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1984: Voter Education

## Universal Voter Registration

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the concept of universal registration.*

*The NAACP directs its Washington Bureau to work to ensure that any legislation proposed to address the problem of access barriers, be geared toward state mail registration with financial support from the Federal government for local, state, and federal elections, thereby implementing registration across the Nation.*

*The NAACP will see to it that any provisions in such legislation regarding “purging the rolls” does not result in a disproportionate impact on blacks.*

*The NAACP will continue in its Voter Empowerment Project (VEP) which is designed to build a grassroots outreach effort including voter registration, education, and “get out the vote” activities. The NAACP will seek to register and mobilize one million new African American voters for the coming elections.*

*The Voter Empowerment Project, provided the necessary funding, will develop a number of ways to disseminate its message including a voters guide which will be the premier guide for the African-American community and public interest organizations and an 800 number which will answer questions and refer people to local resources.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP has worked long and hard against the right to vote being denied or abridged. Nationwide, approximately 7 million eligible African-American voters are not registered to vote. Numerous American citizens across the Nation, eligible to participate in the election process, fail to register as a result of access barriers. Legislation is being proposed in both Houses of the Congress to implement a mail registration process for federal elections to assist in alleviating such barriers.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Universal Voter Registration
- ◆ 1995: Voter Empowerment

## **Voter Action in the South**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will target key districts for expanded voter registration/education and get-out-the-vote activities to ensure increased opportunities for black political empowerment.*

*The NAACP directs its Voter Education Department to develop a campaign, strategies, and materials to achieve this objective.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Fifty-three (53%) percent of the Nation's black population resides in the southern states. Sixty-three (63.8%) percent of the Nation's black elected officials are in such southern states. The potential for increasing the number of black elected officials and overall black political empowerment is evident. Many persons are elected to public office who are hostile to the interests of black Americans in state, federal, and local districts where there is a substantial black voting-age population.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Voter Action in the South

## **Home Voting**



## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We call for the rejection of this idea of home voting until we can be guaranteed by those in support of this idea that every home or dwelling (homeless) with a person that has reached voting age has a home computer and modem.*

*We solicit the legislators to reject this concept until there can be assurances to avoid election rigging and computer vote fraud.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Virginia's governor along with six other states are challenging the motor voter bill that would increase the number of registered voters, and proposing that citizens vote from home, using personal computers. This "home voting" would eliminate real democracy. Wealth could dictate ownership of computers making certain segments of the population computer literate and others illiterate. The possibility exists that this right would only be offered on paid television stations. No one can guarantee the integrity of the balloting.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1995: Civil Rights: Home Voting

## **Same Day Voter Registration**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports efforts to institute same-day voter registration for all elections at the federal, state and local level.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Voter participation and self-governance are encouraged and protected by allowing eligible voters to register to vote at polling places in the precinct where they reside on any election day and to vote on the same day that they register ("same-day registration").

Sufficient safeguards can be enacted to adequately protect against election fraud while still permitting same-day registration.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2002: Same Day Voter Registration Resolution

## **Restoring Voting Rights**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP must work for the restoration of the voting rights of persons whose rights have been denied because of incarceration. We reaffirm our vigorous support of felony re-enfranchisement legislation.*

*The NAACP support legislation that would allow veterans who have been convicted of felonies to register to vote after being released from incarceration.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Currently, 32 states prohibit felons from voting while they are on parole and 28 states exclude felony probationers, even if no prison time is involved.

We call for an aggressive plan of action for the restoration of voting rights for persons who have lost their right to vote because of a felony conviction and for incarceration. African Americans and other people of color are disproportionately impacted by the disenfranchisement of voting rights which impacts many who have been incarcerated.

Voter disenfranchisement is an offense to democratic ideals. Disenfranchisement of those who jeopardize their lives in defense of democratic ideals is an offense to the conscience of our nation. Denying veterans who commit a crime and who serve their sentences the right to vote amounts to denial of the possibility of redemption.

The 14th Amendment of the U. S. Constitution prescribes that "...the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude." The Canadian Supreme Court granted Canadian prisoners the right to vote, citing: "The idea that certain classes of people are not morally fit or morally worthy to vote and to participate in the lawmaking process is ancient and obsolete. The legitimacy of the law and the obligation to obey the law flows directly from the right of every citizen to vote. As to a legitimate penal purpose, neither the record nor common sense support the claim that disenfranchisement deters crime or rehabilitates criminals..." Chief Justice Beverly McLauchlin, who wrote the opinion, also remarked that removing the right to vote in hopes of enhancing respect for the law is "exactly backwards."

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2003: Human Rights Voting
- ◆ 2004: All Veterans Should Be Permitted to Vote

## **Voting Rights of Homeless Individuals or Persons with Non-Traditional Residences**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports local, state and federal legislation or guidelines that ensure that homeless individuals or persons with non-traditional residences have equal access to voting.*

*The NAACP calls upon the federal government to earmark funds to assist homeless shelters and other temporary emergency housing facilities in providing assistance to homeless individuals or persons with non-traditional residences in registering to vote and in exercising their right to vote.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

A democracy derives its power and integrity from the full participation of its citizens.

Laws governing the process or procedures for homeless individuals or persons with non-traditional residences to register to vote may vary significantly among states and may be cumbersome.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2005: Voting Rights of Homeless Individuals or Persons with Non-Traditional Residences

## **Washington, D.C. Home Rule**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its support for home rule and full self-determination for the citizens of Washington, DC.*

*The NAACP shall encourage its local branches to educate their members and the community at large on issues concerning Washington, DC.*

*The NAACP branches shall solicit support from their respective members of Congress for maintaining home rule and realizing full self-determination for the citizens of Washington, DC, and shall hold their respective members of Congress accountable in this regard.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The struggle for home rule in Washington, DC has been long fought and hard fought. The NAACP has stood with the citizens of Washington, DC for decades in this struggle.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 2002: Reaffirming 1997 Policy on D.C. Home Rule
- ◆ 2006: Home Rule (Reaffirming 1997 Resolution)

## **Access to the Ballot through Technology**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will develop cutting edge strategies and best practices for maximizing voter participation in a manner that is accessible and beneficial for all, including vote-by-mail and technology.*

*The NAACP supports policies that would facilitate the implementation of access-driven voting strategies and technological advancements in voting that are proven to be effective and secure ways of casting and counting votes.*

*The NAACP will continue to promote a far-reaching effort that is focused on increasing voter participation and election protection.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The 15th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution grants all citizens the right to vote. The NAACP believes that all Americans have the right to an electoral process that is accessible and accountable.

The current U.S. electoral system is plagued by barriers such as voter fraud, faulty machinery and time restrictions that impede certain citizens from participating in local, state, and federal elections. The NAACP is firmly committed to advocating for electoral policies that address the disparities that exist in voter registration, voter education, and election protection in order to ensure that all eligible voters have an opportunity to cast informed ballots in local, state, and federal elections and for those ballots to be accurately counted.

Technology has opened vast new corridors for election reform. The NAACP supports an approach to election reform that calls for improvements in election administration for poll-site voting and acknowledges the need to develop, implement, and support innovative and accessible mechanisms that enable voters to cast their ballots. The NAACP recognizes the need to safeguard election reform with strategies and practices that provide greater accessibility to the electoral process while preserving the procedural integrity of each ballot.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

2006: Greater Access to the Ballot Through Vote-By-Mail and Other Technologies

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Welfare

## Child and Family Services Act of 1975

*The NAACP directs its units to urge their Congresspersons to vote affirmatively on the Child and Family Services Act of 1975 (H.R. 2966).*

### ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ 1976: Child and Family Services Act of 1975

## Foster Care and Adoption

### POLICY SUMMARY:

*The NAACP stands opposed to the disproportionate removal of African-American children from their homes and schools by the child welfare system and will investigate the negative and adverse effect of this human rights violation against children and their families. The NAACP and all of its units through the local, state and federal legislative processes will seek to reform and ultimately abolish these practices.*

*The NAACP will sponsor and support efforts that will encourage the promotion of public awareness and education within the Black community concerning the need for adoption of Black Children. All local units of the NAACP are to direct program attention and monitoring skills to the placement of black children in their respective communities to ensure that children under supervision of both public (state) and private agencies are placed in suitable, safe, competent foster homes.*

*The NAACP will urge all of its units to partner with local child advocacy organizations to recruit board members, staff and volunteers of color to work with families who have been accused of child maltreatment and advocate for and represent children of color in the child welfare and foster care systems.*

*The NAACP expresses its concern about the over-representation of African-Americans in the child welfare and foster care systems and calls upon the Congressional Black Caucus and the Legislative Black Caucus in every state to review the over- representation issue and express similar concerns. The Washington Bureau of the NAACP and the Political Action Committee of the State Conferences will review, monitor and offer amendments or raise objections to any federal and state legislation that may cause a disproportionate number of African American children to enter the foster care system and remain in the system for extended periods of time. The Legal Department of the NAACP will partner with various organizations as black administrators in child welfare to research, review and study policies, practices and procedures of Child Protective Services Agencies to determine if these policies, practices and procedures have a discriminatory impact on African-American children and take whatever legal action may be deemed appropriate based on the investigation. The Legal Department of the NAACP will include as a training topic, the child welfare system and the over-representation of African American children in that system, on the 2004 Continuing Legal Education seminar agenda; and*

*The State Conferences of the NAACP should request that the state office of all child protective service agencies provide them with copies of any*

*proposed changes in state agency policies which impact children in the child protective services system and give State Conferences an opportunity to comment on the proposed. State Conferences of the NAACP are directed to review, monitor and express concerns to the state children protective services agencies about the lack of African-American child welfare administrators.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP is concerned with all areas of activity affecting the safety of black children and recognizes the severe problems growing out of faulty and careless placement of black children by public agencies and others, resulting in many instances of trauma and child abuse.

African American children are disproportionately removed from their homes and schools and placed in protective services under the child welfare system. According to the 2000 Census, 64% of the children in this country are white, 15% are African-American, 16% are Hispanic and 5% are Native American and other, but 42% of the children in the child welfare and foster care systems are African American, 36% are white, 15% are Hispanic and 7% are Native American and other. The law states that children should only be removed from the protection of their families in cases of “imminent danger,” but the interpretation of “imminent danger” has been broadened to a point of adverse impact to the sacredness of the family unit, particularly in low income families. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the majority (57.2% nationally) of children are removed from their homes for alleged “neglect” (90% removal in urban areas) and parents declared “unfit.”

There are a number of Black children for adoption, and they are among the most difficult to place in adopted homes. According to the Washington State Institute for Public Policy, youth in foster care scored approximately 15-20 percentile points below non-foster youth in statewide achievement tests, and only 59% of foster youth who are enrolled in 11th grade complete high school by the end of the 12th grade, compared to 86% of non-foster youth, and about 70% of New York’s prison population are former foster children.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Safety in Child Placement
- ◆ 1987: The Adoption of Black Children
- ◆ 2003: Civil Rights: The Unconstitutional Removal of African American Children from their Homes Under the Child Welfare System
- ◆ 2003: Civil Rights: Over Representation of African American Children in the Child Welfare and Foster Care Systems

## **Food Stamps**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon the Congress to speedily enact the Food Stamp Bill (HR 1277).*

*The NAACP calls upon Food Stamp Program administrators to more widely disseminate information on the program and to establish distribution centers on a decentralized basis*

*The NAACP states its opposition to congressional efforts to implement Food Assistance Block Grants to the states.*

*The NAACP directs each branch, chapter and state conference to telephone, write and/or visit their respective congressional representatives in order to state our opposition to Block Granting of Food Programs.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Federal food programs were initially established because many states were not meeting the basic nutritional needs of their citizens. National standards and benefit levels for food assistance have helped eliminate discrepancies between states in basis benefits for low-income families.

The Food Stamp Program increases the nutritional quality of diets by 20 to 40%. The WIC Program reduces infant mortality, low birth weight, and anemia. Block Grant Proposals would 1) cut federal funding for food assistance; 2) End entitlement to additional federal funds during times of recession or natural disaster when the number of Americans seeking food assistance increases; and 3) Force cuts in benefits, tighten eligibility requirements or limit some programs completely.

The NAACP deplores the failure of those who administer the program to adequately inform all those who are eligible of their rights, especially those such as the elderly, the infirm and domestic workers who are removed from urban centers.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Food Stamps
- ◆ 1995: Food Assistance Block Granting

## **Poverty Criteria**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the President and Congress to upgrade the poverty income criteria to a standard that would allow the economically disadvantaged and poor to escape the welfare syndrome, enabling them to obtain better housing, education, proper nutrition and health care, which it feels are basic for the stabilization of family life in this country*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Poverty Criteria

## **Day Care Centers**



## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls for child care programs that provide stimuli and curriculum, that provide a positive self-image in our young children, that inspire and challenge pre-schoolers to think for themselves, to aspire and work toward pursuing any desired career, and to work to develop to their fullest potential.*

*The NAACP encourages local branches to investigate and monitor existing child care programs to be sure that these facilities provide quality child care that emphasizes preparing our children to be the very best and self-sufficient citizens that they can be and that workers with young children take advantage of the proper training that is available to them.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Day Care Centers

## **Quality of Life**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP seeks to form a cadre of competent persons, list and pool their resources for the purpose of conducting pertinent manpower and quality of black life research studies. Evolving strategies and techniques from such studies are to be disseminated widely through the local units and efforts be increased to implement and augment such findings.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Quality of Life

## **Aging**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will review the flow of Federal funds allocated for the aged for Day Care Centers, meal service programs, nursing home care and medical services and advocate an increase in the amount of monies specified for these.*

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Aging

## Fuel Stamps

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on the United States Government to implement immediately a fuel stamp plan or other methods to provide for those whose income places them below the poverty level.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Fuel Stamps

## Support Systems For International Children

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP will observe the international Year of the Youth by acknowledging and addressing the problems of children, including American-fathered children ostracized by adoption and other agencies in countries around the world.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1984: Support Systems for International Children

## Welfare Reform

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*NAACP units are directed to work for comprehensive welfare reform to include a guaranteed minimum income.*

*NAACP units will work at the national, state, and local levels to ensure that welfare reform proposals adopted include a requirement for the participation of local community groups in planning and implementing welfare programs financed with state and federal funds.*

*The NAACP supports the following components, consistent with society's obligations to its citizenry, to be included in any welfare reform program:*

- *education and training to improve work skills;*
- *increased work opportunities providing living wages;*
- *supportive community structures, like quality child care and improved public transportation;*
- *guaranteed health care;*

- *strengthened incentives for keeping families together;*
- *enforcement of child support payments by absent parents;*
- *affordable housing;*
- *Medicaid and food stamp benefits, when needed.*
- *establishing paternity and financial responsibility.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP supports domestic policies that help people permanently escape poverty. The NAACP supports meaningful and effective welfare reform. The NAACP believes that all levels of government must take leadership in assuring a basic “safety net” for families and assisting low-income people in moving out of poverty. The NAACP believes in the importance of personal responsibility; but also believes that churches, charitable institutions, the business community and private citizens, have important roles to play in providing a basic safety nets for all people. The political debate about welfare reform has been poisoned by hostile stereotypes about poverty, race, and gender. Welfare programs, especially Aid to Families with Dependant Children (AFDC), could benefit from changes, including better coordination with other programs and improvements that promote efficiency and effectiveness. The NAACP opposes the elimination of the entitlement status of welfare benefits. The NAACP opposes arbitrary time limits on welfare benefits--time limits which do not take into account individual situations, such as availability of jobs, physical conditions or responsibilities of primary care-givers. The NAACP believes that no child should be excluded from benefits because of the mother’s marital or prior welfare status,

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Welfare Reform
- ◆ 1995: Welfare Reform

## **Social Security and Medicare**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP urges the Congress to take no action that would weaken Social Security and Medicare.*

*The NAACP urges the Congress to make no further budget/funding cuts in Medicare benefits.*

*The NAACP urges the Congress to take action guaranteeing adequate funding of Social Security and Medicare at a level which provides an adequate and secure life style for Americans upon their retirement.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Social Security and Medicare

## Homeless People

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls upon Congress and the Administration to enact and sign into law legislation making federal funds available for research, housing, on-site medical care, food, and other basic needs of homeless people. NAACP State, Area, and Regional conferences and branches will monitor state agencies in their locales to help effect the delivery of benefits to homeless people.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1987: Homeless People

## Medicaid Resolution

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP reaffirms its position that every American deserves excellent universal healthcare. The NAACP will work for legislative protection of the existing Medicaid program and advocate for a budget that is inclusive of the needs of the Americans that rely on Medicaid for health insurance coverage. The NAACP stands opposed to further cuts and/or any programmatic changes that could limit access to critical health care services for Medicaid beneficiaries, and calls for the Federal and State governments to use as an eligibility criteria nothing less than 200% of the federal poverty line.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- 2006: Medicaid Resolution

**NAACP  
POLICIES  
IN:**

Youth Work

## Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*All branches, college chapters and youth units advise, programmatically, youth and adults of the potential dangers of excessive alcohol usage and narcotics abuse.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Excessive use of alcohol is detrimental to good health. Narcotics abuse is a serious and continuing problem.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1976: Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

## The NAACP Academic Excellence Program

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP shall nationally implement and promote an "NAACP Academic Excellence Program." Pursuant to this end, an annual competition shall be promoted in areas such as mathematics, music, English composition, art, science and oratory. Classes of competitors shall be limited to NAACP Junior Youth members. The competition will be held by all branches nationally and simultaneously, and become an NAACP institution. The responsibility for developing implementation guidelines and programs will be that of the NAACP Department of Education with the cooperation of the Youth Department. The NAACP National Office will seek financial support from foundations to implement this program.*

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: NAACP Academic Excellence Program

## Youth Service Jobs

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP supports the goals of the AmeriCorps and other service programs and welcomes the valuable service its participants would render.*

*The NAACP calls upon its units to to: (1) become highly familiar with the program proposal; (2) support the proposal in its various stages of becoming a fully-funded law; (3) disseminate information about the program, even during its proposal stage; and (4) counsel parents and students, especially those of African ancestry, about the Program's possibilities not only to help pay for one's college education, but also to help increase the number of African-American college graduates, especially those who will have acquired hands-on experience in helping to solve America's urgent, urban problems.*

*The NAACP directs its Washington Bureau and units of the Association to aggressively work for the passage of H.R. 17 and S. 27, which will ensure employment of our youth, reduce the Nation's backlog of needed conservation work and meet America's needs for outdoor recreational facilities.*

*The NAACP calls upon the U S. Department of Labor to provide the greatest percentage of the young adult conservation corps jobs to black youth, and to offer prime contracts to nonprofit organizations and private agencies. The Youth and College Division will explore with the U S Department of Labor the feasibility of NAACP youth groups receiving contracts to help monitor and counsel minority youth participating in youth employment programs. NAACP branches, youth councils and college chapters are directed to acquaint black youth with the Youth Employment Program and encourage them to apply, to participate in same.*

*The NAACP National Office and its units will monitor the implementation of this program to assure racial equality.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

A series of service organizations for youth have been proposed, most recently AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps is generally designed to repay college funds with community service, and is intended to have 100,000 participants by 1997. For each two years of service, college graduates -- who perform such vital community service as teaching in inner-city schools, building housing for the homeless, and serving as law enforcement officers--would have up to \$10,000 a year in educational loans forgiven. High school graduates, who wish to help pay in advance for their college education or employment training, would receive \$5,000 annually for their community service, as well as eligibility later for the same type of loans and "forgiveness" that would be available for ongoing college students.

The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 was amended by the Congress to add Title 8, called the Youth Employment and Training Act of 1977. A similar idea was put forward in 1987, then called the American Conservation Corps act. The purpose of these Acts is to establish a national young adult conservation corps to provide employment benefits for youth. The Federal Youth Employment and Training Program is designed to employ thousands of unemployed youths.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1977: Implementation of the Youth Employment and Training Act
- ◆ 1987: American Conservation Corps Act (HR 17 and S 27)
- ◆ 1993: Miscellaneous: Support for the National Service Program

**Recruitment of Youth into the Medical Profession**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP calls on its Youth and College Division to encourage youth to pursue fields in the medical profession. The NAACP, through the youth and college program, must inform black youth of grants available to assist them in this field. NAACP units are encouraged to bring before black youth groups college recruiters and blacks presently in the health field to discuss careers in health. The NAACP Youth and College Division will inform our youth councils and college chapters of the types of courses that young people should take in high school to prepare for college courses that would lead to medical training.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

There exists in this country a serious shortage of black citizens in the medical profession.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1978: Recruitment of Youth

## **Youth/Adult Relationship**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*Branches, youth councils and college chapters are encouraged to jointly sponsor and work in membership, money raising and civil rights campaigns.*

*State and regional conferences must make every effort to overtly demonstrate to young people that they are both wanted and needed in the Association, in work and showcase.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Youth involvement in the NAACP is not a facade, but indeed a vital cog in the Association's wheel of freedom.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Youth/Adult Relationship

## **Youth Employment Demonstrations Projects Act**

## **POLICY SUMMARY:**



*The Youth and College Division develop a program to study or monitor the program and its application in the ten major cities to ascertain whether black youths are getting the full benefit intended by the programs.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Youth Employment Demonstrations Projects Act was designed to help decrease the alarming and steadily worsening rate of unemployment among black youth.

In many cities across the country, the Youth Unemployment Demonstrations Projects Act funds are apparently misdirected.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Youth Employment Demonstrations Projects Act

## **South Africa Youth & College Division**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The Youth and College Division of the NAACP calls upon the NAACP National Office to take the forefront in developing positive efforts directed toward the eradication of apartheid practices in South Africa.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Apartheid in South Africa represents a social, economical, political and educational system of government, where racism and separatism are the very foundation upon which it exists. Millions of South African people are dying for lack of freedom, equality and justice for all. The United States Government has not taken sufficient actions against the economic exploitation of black South African people. Thousands of black and white Americans responded to the National NAACP's call for a protest march against South Africa's participation in the Davis Cup Tennis Tournament and that country's system of apartheid.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: South Africa – Youth and College Division

## **Youth Employment**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We call upon the Congress to pass legislation to identify black youth, provide the counseling and training necessary to prepare them to enter the nation's work force, and, that we urge the Congress to consider the use of federally-financed institutions and personnel attached thereto for the testing and counseling of these youth.*

*The NAACP calls upon the President and the Congress designate adequate-funded programs with sufficient incentives to the private sector, coupled with adequate tax incentives to be used specifically for the recruitment, training and hiring of black youth into entry-level jobs. The President and Congress, notwithstanding budgetary considerations, must create meaningful jobs within the public sector, with security and permanency for black youth.*

*To bolster these efforts, all NAACP chapters are strongly urged to diligently seek effective implementation of those youth training and employment programs presently funded under the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) of 1978 as amended, to assure that these programs are vigorously pursued by our youth.*

*The NAACP Youth and College Division will work toward establishing the following solutions:*

- 1. Involve youths on all Federal and state job advisory boards to insure that these programs employ vigorous and comprehensive pre-employment orientation and training.*
- 2. Sponsor annual job fairs, job banks and career seminars that will develop ways and means of finding ways to upgrade previous dead-end jobs and earmarking new meaningful employment.*
- 3. Re-examine Federal and state guidelines on youth employment in the public sector and develop new intern opportunities for black students.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

Employment opportunities for America's black youth are extremely low to non-existent. Although the rate of black and minority unemployment among adults and youth continue to escalate, black unemployment exceeds that of white unemployment at an alarming rate. Federal and state job advisory boards have not been able to properly address the problem of black youth unemployment, or set adequate guidelines. There are far too few job internship opportunities in either the private or public sector; most job opportunities for minority youth are either dead-end or meaningless jobs.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Labor and Industry: Black Youth and Unemployment
- ◆ 1979: Youth Employment
- ◆ 1979: Identification and Targeting of Jobs for Black Youth
- ◆ 1980: Labor and Industry: Mobilizing Black Youth

## Fundraising

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The Youth and College Division will sponsor, an annual Youth Solicitation Day, effective May 17, 1979. The Solicitation Day is designated as May 17, the day the Supreme Court handed down the Brown decision.*

*The National Office is urged to give its full support to this project to insure maximum success.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

As the Association needs financial means for implementing the many programs necessary to eradicate racism and strengthen the black community, the Youth and College Division wishes to refuel its money contributions to the Association.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: Fundraising

## International Year of the Child

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We direct our youth units to develop and implement a program to spotlight concerns of black youth.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The U S Congress has set up a U.S. Commission on the International Year of the Child to focus on the needs and opportunities of children from every economic background, from all social levels, from all religious persuasions and from every ethnic and racial group.

The NAACP through its Youth and College Division has a primary concern for the rights of children and youth.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1979: International Year of the Child

## Leadership Development and Training Programs

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office will implement training programs for the purpose of increasing the leadership ability of our junior youth, youth and college students.*

*To this end, the National Office will implement the college work committee; develop a young people's speaking bureau; establish awards for outstanding junior youth, youth and college students; conduct workshops at conventions relating to professional career development and exam-taking skills on professional and graduate school tests.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP has been one of the forerunners of issues involving education. We are in a critical period of change and conservatism in the field of higher education with the clock being turned back on civil rights, and college chapters can play an important role in the direction of change.

Junior youth councils, youth councils and college chapters of the NAACP are the future leaders of tomorrow. Adequate leadership training is not available to these future leaders, resulting in youth not being rewarded for their contributions to the NAACP.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Leadership Development and Training Programs

## **Scholarships**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*We direct all units of the NAACP to seek out private (foundations and corporations), governmental, and voluntary financial assistance programs prior to using any NAACP operating funds for the purpose of educational scholarships for youths.*

*A convention workshop will be designed for the purpose of helping branches develop comprehensive financial aid assistance programs that will aid young blacks in obtaining funds for the support of their educational pursuits.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Many branches give scholarships with NAACP operating funds, but this is a less-desirable use of funds, as there are many financial aid programs available through the private (foundations and corporations), governmental, and voluntary sectors.

## **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1980: Scholarships

## Teenage Pregnancies

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The National Office is directed to develop a program for NAACP units to educate young black males and females concerning the responsibilities of teenage pregnancies.*

*The NAACP will implement recommendations of the Black Family Summit. The NAACP will convene a national conference on parenting and disseminate the recommendations evolving from this conference together with an action plan for NAACP units.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The increase of teenage pregnancies is rising at an alarming rate, and the age of teenage parents is becoming younger. The fact of teen pregnancies impacts greatly on the alarming rise in single parent families, which comprise almost 50 of all black families.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1985: Teenage Pregnancies

## Youth Economic Development Initiatives

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The Economic Development office, in cooperation with the Youth and College Division, will work to develop Economic Development initiatives within the youth community.*

*Entrepreneurship, black business development, advertising awareness, black spending awareness and community development shall become key initiatives of all Youth and College Division units.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

Economic development continues to surface as an increasingly more obvious avenue for the overall development of the African-American community.

The attitudes, habits and lifestyles of black youth continue to shape American public policy as well a consumer decision made in the corporate business community.

The ills often associated with black youth are traceable in large part to the absence of job opportunities and inadequate community resources.

The NAACP Youth and College Division has demonstrated its potential land ability to mobilize African-American youth as well as successfully implementing NAACP programs.

NAACP Youth involvement will have a direct bearing on the NAACP's ability to successfully mount an economic revolution, and represent a primary source of growth and opportunity.

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1993: Youth and College Economic Development Initiatives

## **Role of Youth in Black Communities**

### **POLICY SUMMARY:**

*The NAACP, through its network of over 2,200 units—especially through the Youth & College Division—must encourage young people to be role models for their peers in the most positive fashion.*

*The Youth & College Division must create and implement programs that specifically deal with leadership, self-esteem and conflict/resolutions skills.*

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NAACP has historically addressed the problems which plague the black community of this country. For many years there has been an increase of violence perpetuated by youth. Action must be taken in order to arrest the enormity of the issue(s).

### **ORIGINAL ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ 1993: Violence in Black Communities

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