

MINNESOTA DFL RESOLUTION FORM

*(NOTE: Incomplete forms may be rejected. Submit only one resolution per form.
Resolutions that combine separate issues might not be considered.)*

Congressional District: <input type="text"/>	County Unit/ Senate District: <input type="text"/>	Precinct: <input type="text"/>
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Proposed by: _____
(Name) (City) Contact Phone #/E-mail

This resolution is: A new 2008 Action Agenda item
[check one] A re-adoption of a 2006 Action Agenda item
 An amendment of the Ongoing Platform
 A Party Issue. *(Will not be included in the Action Agenda items presented to the state convention.)*
 A Local Issue (City/County). *(Forwarded to the appropriate elected body, not the Platform Commission.)*

This resolution should be considered under the following category: **[check one]**

<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & Food	<input type="checkbox"/> National Security & International Policy
<input type="checkbox"/> Business & Community Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources & the Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Civil, Human & Constitutional Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety & Crime Prevention
<input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Security
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Tax and Budget Policy
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Government Accountability to the Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans' Affairs
<input type="checkbox"/> Health & Human Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Local or Party Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Employment	

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: *(Print or attach your resolutions here. Any WHEREAS clauses or supporting statements should be included on the back of this form.)*

The Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota urges its Congressional delegation to introduce and strongly advocate the passage of a FEDERAL law which mandates that ALL coal fired power plants in the U.S. remove a total of 90% from their initial baseline level of mercury emissions with no time extension clauses and with strict and swift enforcement measures.

To be filled out at the Precinct Caucus:

This resolution was: Adopted Defeated
by: A voice vote. A recorded vote of: Yes No Abstain
(A majority consists of more than half of those voting, not counting blanks and abstentions.)

Fish Consumption and Mercury Poisoning in Children

Resolution

Natural Resources and the Environment

WHEREAS, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has established that methyl mercury is a dangerous and potent nervous system toxin, especially to children born to mothers who ate methyl mercury contaminated fish within three months before conception and/or during pregnancy. Currently, various levels of methyl mercury exposure in the womb from fish consumption in the U.S. can cause or contribute to impaired motor skills, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), language and memory development, mental retardation, seizures, cerebral palsy, impaired hearing, and impaired vision; and

WHEREAS, coal fired power plants are the largest emitters of mercury into the environment in the U.S. (45 tons per year). This mercury is converted into methyl mercury in lakes, rivers, streams, and coastal ocean waters that is taken up in the human food chain by fish consumption; and

WHEREAS, low income and minority subsistence fishermen and their families consume far greater amounts of fish than the average fishermen so their young children are at far greater risk of methyl mercury poisoning. These include African American, Native Americans, certain Latino sub-cultures, certain Asian cultural groups such as the Hmong people, and low income white subsistence fishermen. The children of high consuming sport fishermen families are also at risk; and

WHEREAS, while Minnesota has the strongest state legislation in the nation for mercury emissions reduction, 90% of the mercury deposited in Minnesota waters comes from outside of the state (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency). Other states have similar cross-boundary depositions of mercury. Thus federal legislation is imperative; and

WHEREAS, there is no Federal law mandating mercury emissions reduction, even though we have the current technology to install and reduce mercury emissions from coal fired power plants by up to 90% today,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota urges its Congressional delegation to introduce and strongly advocate the passage of a FEDERAL law which mandates that ALL coal fired power plants in the U.S. remove a total of 90% from their initial baseline level of mercury emissions with no time extension clauses and with strict and swift enforcement measures.