

**MASSACHUSETTS DEMOCRATIC PARTY:
Resolution Regarding the Religiously Unaffiliated Demographic**

WHEREAS, the religiously unaffiliated demographic, also known as the “Nones,” has tripled in the last two decades, now representing [23 percent](#) of the overall American population and [35 percent](#) of those under the age of 30, and has become the [largest religious group within the Democratic Party](#), growing from 19 percent in 2007 to 28 percent today; and

WHEREAS, the “Nones” have often been subjected to unfair bias and exclusion in American society, particularly in the areas of politics and policymaking where assumptions of religiosity have long predominated; and

WHEREAS, those most loudly proclaiming that morals, values, and patriotism must be defined by their particular religious views have consistently in recent years used those religious views, together with misplaced claims of “religious liberty,” to justify public policy that has threatened the civil rights and liberties of many Americans, including but not limited to the LGBT community, women, and ethnic and religious/nonreligious minorities; and

WHEREAS, those most loudly proclaiming that morals, values, and patriotism must be defined by their particular religious views have often used those religious views to justify public policy that rejects well-established scientific consensus on issues such as evolution, sexuality, gender, women’s health, and climate change, thus threatening not only the United States but the entire planet; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party is an inclusive party that recognizes that morals, values, and patriotism are not unique to any particular religion, and in fact are not necessarily reliant on having a religious worldview at all; and

WHEREAS, the “Nones” have consistently been a religious category that has [strongly supported](#) marriage equality and LGBT rights, and has often been in the lead in advocating for civil liberties and human rights for all;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the MASSACHUSETTS DEMOCRATIC PARTY recognizes:

- 1. The value, ethical soundness, and importance of the religiously unaffiliated demographic, a group of Americans who contribute in innumerable ways to the arts, sciences, medicine, business, law, and the success of the Party and prosperity of the Nation; and**
- 2. That the “Nones” are a group that, as much as any other, advocates for rational public policy based on sound science and universal humanistic values.**