



DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ORANGE COUNTY

Resolution #21-4-01

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE KENNETH ROSS JR. POLICE DECERTIFICATION ACT OF 2021 (SENATE BILL 2)

WHEREAS, The state of California ensures safe practices in over 200 professions -- from doctors and lawyers to barbers and contractors -- by requiring licenses that the state can revoke if professionals engage in misconduct. Yet, the people tasked with protecting public safety are far too often those who are compromising it, harming our community members with impunity. California must create a process to remove abusive police from the streets to protect those who are most often targeted by police violence: Black people, indigenous people, other people of color, LGBTQIA individuals, and those with disabilities.

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1421 (Skinner, Chapter 988, Statutes of 2018), which permitted inspection of certain acts of officer misconduct via Public Records Act requests, there have been numerous stories of officers committing misconduct and not facing any consequences. These officers remain on the force after pleading down to a lesser crime- if prosecuted and convicted at all. Other times, these officers resign or are fired from their employer, only to get rehired at another law enforcement agency and continue to commit serious acts of misconduct. A clear case of this can be seen in the murder of Kenneth Ross, Jr, who was killed by Michael Robbins, who shot four other people previously.

WHEREAS, Police officers engaging in anti-Black racism and abuse of power create unsafe communities and must be taken off the streets. We give officers more authority than nearly any other profession - the power to stop, search, arrest, and even use deadly force on members of our community. This power means that the state has a greater responsibility to hold these officers accountable.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Kenneth Ross Jr. Police Decertification Act of 2021 (SB 2) authored by Senator Bradford and Senate Pro Tem Atkins will establish a statewide process to automatically decertify officers who are fired for specified misconduct such as excessive force, sexual misconduct and dishonesty. SB 2 will give the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) the power to

independently investigate allegations of misconduct and decertify officers who resign before they are fired.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Orange County support The Kenneth Ross Jr. Police Decertification Act of 2021 and Judiciary Chair, Tom Umberg and all Orange County Senators and Assemblymembers to vote “aye” on SB 2.

Co-Sponsors:

Libby Frolichman, Victor Valladares, Juan Alvarez, Jose Trinidad Castañeda, Carolyn Torres ALT Jessie Lopez, Oscar Rodriguez, Marisol Ramirez, Mike Rodriguez, Giovanni Chavez, Isuri Ramos

**Adopted by the Democratic Party of Orange County Central Committee
April 26, 2021**