

IOWA DEMOCRATIC PARTY
5661 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, Iowa 50321

RESOLUTION FOR DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM
(Start resolutions with "We Support:" or "We Oppose:".)

We support changing the direction of drug policy by recognizing substance abuse as a mental illness
and not a criminal behavior.

RATIONALE FOR RESOLUTION

Both Vice President Al Gore and Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack support full parity in health insurance
coverage for mental health treatment. Lieutenant Governor Sally Peterson said that the definition of
mental illness includes substance abuse, and that the Governor's office will be drafting legislation
which includes this concept for introduction during the 2000 legislative session. Governor Vilsack's
Health Care proposal, at page 6, states:

Promote parity for mental health and substance abuse treatment.

- Promote parity for mental health and substance abuse treatment by private health plans.
- Implement parity in state employee health plans.

REFERENCES / RESOURCES

(Articles in Newspapers, magazines, or books,
names of people who have knowledge on subject and how they can be reached, etc.)

Conversation with Lieutenant Governor Sally Peterson at the Iowa Federation of Labor's Legislative
Issues Forum on Saturday, January 8, 2000

See Governor's Issue and Budget Information: Health
at http://www.state.ia.us/governor/agenda/budget_in_brief/index.html

Name: Carl E. Olsen Date: January 24, 2000
Address: 1116 E. Seneca Ave., Apt. 3 Precinct Number: 4
City: Des Moines County: Polk State: IA Zip Code: 50316
Phone: (Including Area Code) (515) 262-6957
E-Mail: carl@commonlink.net

Result of caucus attenders' votes: Passed: _____ Failed: _____

Caucus Chair: _____ Caucus Secretary: _____