

April 19, 2026

Dear NLG Comrades:

I am writing in **support** of the Resolution to Reverse Anti-Democratic Constitutional Amendments sponsored by the Detroit & Michigan and Massachusetts chapters.

In 2022, changes were made to the Constitution that gave the NEC the unilateral power to censure or revoke a chapter, or to discipline, suspend, or expel an individual member. This resolution returns those powers to the membership.

As I understand it, an argument was made at this year's Convention that the NEC might need to act more expeditiously than waiting for the next annual Convention, in the event of a threat to the organization. A friendly amendment was proposed that in the event of such an emergency, a vote of the membership could be organized at a date sooner than the annual Convention. That friendly amendment was adopted at the Convention and was incorporated into the resolution.

At the time these changes were put forward in 2022, an argument was made that if the membership disagreed with an NEC decision under these articles, they could simply reverse it at the next Convention. This argument ignores two key points: 1) any revoked chapter or expelled member would no longer have any voice at the Convention or in the organization at all, and 2) the NEC would still retain the power to immediately reverse the membership's decision. This leaves the concentrated powers unchecked.

I urge you to vote yes for this resolution because NLG is a member-driven and chapter-led organization. There is no need to concentrate such extraordinary powers in a small body of people, and there is great danger in it. Obviously, these powers could be used to suppress, silence, and/or eliminate dissent and whistleblowers. The concentrated powers have not been used since they were enacted. Even so, they have a chilling effect, whether or not they are used as such.

In solidarity,

JB Miller, Detroit & Michigan Chapter member