

# SAVE THE LABOUR PARTY

as a democratically-run membership organisation

**[www.savethelabourparty.org](http://www.savethelabourparty.org)**

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21 August 2006

Dear CLP Secretary,

## **Leadership – Contemporary Resolution**

This model resolution on Leadership shows that members have the power to decide whether the Labour Party needs a new Leader now. According to the LabOUR Commission /YouGov polls of members and former members published in June, the majority of members (66%) want the Prime Minister to go at a time of his choosing. But a bigger proportion (74%) want him to resign before the 2007 Annual Conference.

If your CLP wants a new Leadership, we hope your CLP will consider this contemporary resolution and if supported, mandate your delegate to vote for it in the Priorities Ballot on Sunday 24 September. **NB It falls if the Prime Minister makes his position clear at Conference.**

It is vital contingency planning in the event of the Prime Minister NOT taking the opportunity in his address on Tuesday 26 September to announce his resignation both as Prime Minister and Party Leader. If he fails to do so, this resolution empowers the NEC to make a political judgment about the future of the Party. The NEC has the power through the Rule Book to enable Conference to decide if there should be a Leadership election.

We think that the NEC will only use that power if a majority of CLPs support them. We know that the affiliated trade union delegates will not force this issue. They know the media will accuse them of staging a political coup, if they tabled this resolution. Only individual Labour Party members, constituency Labour Parties and their Conference delegates have the power to seize the initiative.

If your CLP is not meeting until mid-September, and you would like to support it in a personal capacity to mobilise support for Leadership change, please eMail your name, CLP office, constituency, and contact details to us as soon as possible at: [office@savethelabourparty.org](mailto:office@savethelabourparty.org)

We have set ourselves a target of securing signatures in support of such a resolution from officers of at least 100 CLPs and BLPs before going public.

The text of the model Contemporary resolution is set out over the page. We hope the objective is clear. We hope it will be overtaken by events.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

**Peter Kenyon**  
**Chair - Save the Labour Party**

**Chair: Peter Kenyon • Vice-Chair: Mark James • Secretary: Dr Gaye Johnston • Treasurer: Kath Fry**

### **Leadership - model contemporary resolution:**

Conference notes the call by the First Minister of the Labour Welsh Assembly Government on 10 August 2006 for clarity over the leadership of the Labour British government well before the Welsh, Scottish and local government elections in May 2007.<sup>1</sup>

Conference notes with concern mounting electoral losses and public controversy about the direction of both domestic and foreign policy.

Moreover, Conference notes growing public concern and interest in a new constitutional settlement to ensure that future British Prime Ministers and their governments are held accountable to Parliament and the electorate.

Conference commends the achievements of its Party Leader since his election in 1994, and subsequently as Prime Minister through Labour's three successive British General election victories in 1997, 2001 and 2005.

Conference notes the Prime Minister's previous statement that he will not fight the next General Election as Party Leader or Prime Minister. Conference now believes that the next Labour Prime Minister needs as much time as possible in office before the next General Election, if Labour is to secure a fourth term.

Conference, therefore, calls on the NEC to use its powers under Clause VIII 3 (h)\* to table a resolution at Conference for debate and ballot on Wednesday 27 September under Rule 4B. 2d (ii) to enable delegates to decide on a card vote whether or not there should be a Leadership contest before the 2007 Annual Conference.

\*Chapter 1 Clause VIII

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE committee

3 (h) states:

to propose to party conference such amendments to the constitution, rules and standing orders as may be deemed desirable; **also, in accordance with the rules, to submit to the party conference such resolutions and declarations affecting the programme, principles and policies of the party as in its view may be necessitated by political circumstances**

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.epolitix.com/EN/Interviews/200608/a45d543b-01fe-4f23-b1f5-18dbd05942c0.htm>