

# A Resolution

by the Loudoun County Democratic Committee (LCDC)

**EXPRESSING** the censure of State Senator Richard H. Black for his April visit to Syria.

**WHEREAS**, State Senator Richard H. Black was visiting Syria on 27 April, 2016, for a three-day trip and was photographed shaking hands with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. On the same day, an airstrike from a low-flying, Syrian fighter jet destroyed a pediatric hospital in Aleppo, Syria, killing many people including one of the last pediatricians in Aleppo. Another Syrian government aircraft then dropped a barrel bomb at the facility's gate killing people rushing to the hospital from an earlier, nearby barrel-bomb attack. The total death toll was near 60 persons; and

**WHEREAS**, U.S. Government officials say: *“Assad has, time and again, proven himself to be a brutal dictator responsible for the deaths of his own countrymen, including Muslims and Christians. He has shown no respect for human life, and anyone who suggests otherwise is ignorant of the depths of his brutality,”* and

**WHEREAS**, during his visit, State Senator Richard H. Black said: *“I will be Syria’s voice,”* and, the war *“would come to an end if the US stops training terrorists in Jordan, Saudi Arabia and other countries in the region and stops providing them with military support,”* and, *“Many people misunderstand the situation in Syria, and refuse to believe that all the groups fighting against the Syrian regime are terror groups,”* therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** on this the 2nd day of June, 2016, the Loudoun County Democratic Committee strongly censures State Senator Richard H. Black for absurd and appalling judgment in expressing support for Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, a demonstrated vicious war criminal, and for expressing criticism of the position of the U.S. Government while visiting Syria.