

1 **#1: Resolution in Opposition to the Trans Pacific Partnership**

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3 WHEREAS passing the TPP would most assuredly increase our balance of trade deficit as past
4 similar agreements have dramatically done; and

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6 WHEREAS passing the TPP would facilitate even more offshoring of high-wage jobs; and

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8 WHEREAS the negotiations on this treaty were dominated by corporate interests and the voices
9 of civil society were pushed aside; and

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11 WHEREAS investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) tribunals pay attention to our legal traditions
12 or Constitutional protections, and their decisions can force Congress to reverse policies enacted
13 in the public interest; and

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15 WHEREAS the ISDS system can be used by private investors to compel governments to
16 compensate them for lost future profits; and

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18 WHEREAS TPP goes well beyond simple trade provisions, establishing a global governance
19 system which puts investor interests above public interests; and

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21 WHEREAS past trade deals similar to the TPP have given investors greater power and
22 influence while offering civil society only lip service in response to legitimate concerns about
23 labor rights, environmental protections, public health, human trafficking, food security, internet
24 freedom, and prudent financial regulation, among other global issues; and

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26 WHEREAS income inequality and climate change are the two defining problems of our time, and
27 the TPP would stand as an obstacle to policies designed to address these global problems; now

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29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Party be encouraged
30 to engage with groups that oppose the Trans Pacific Partnership for the purpose of building
31 public opposition to the TPP; and

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33 THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution, upon its adoption, be sent to
34 Senator Patty Murray, Senator Maria Cantwell, Representative Derek Kilmer, Representative
35 Suzan DelBene, Representative Rick Larsen, Representative Jim McDermott, Representative
36 Adam Smith, and Representative Danny Heck; and

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38 THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that all members of the Washington State
39 Democratic Party be encouraged to contact members of their members of Congress to express
40 strong reservations about the flawed process used to produce the TPP and the negative
41 consequences that would follow if the TPP were to become law.
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1 **#2: Resolution to Replace Democratic Precinct Caucuses with a Primary Election**

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3 Whereas conducting precinct caucuses is expensive for the local and State Democratic Party,
4 and

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6 Whereas the shortage of volunteers makes it difficult to organize and conduct caucuses, and

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8 Whereas not every precinct has a precinct committee officer or other person familiar with the
9 caucus process, which makes errors more likely to occur, and

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11 Whereas the counting of ballots by elections offices is highly accurate and less subject to
12 human error, and

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14 Whereas the caucus process limits whose voices can be heard as many voters have
15 commitments that prohibit participation but do not meet the guidelines of the Surrogate form,
16 and

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18 Whereas the goal should be to allow as many people as possible to have their voices heard and
19 former State Democratic Chair Dwight Pelz stated on KUOW (31 March 2016) that caucuses
20 disenfranchise about 90% of voters,

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22 Therefore, be it resolved that Democratic Precinct Caucuses should be replaced with a Primary
23 Election.

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1 **#3: Resolution in Support of Passing Initiative 732 and Post-Election Follow-up**

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3 WHEREAS fossil fuels contribute to approximately 85 percent of carbon dioxide emissions in
4 Washington state, and will continue to impact our economy and our public health; and

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6 WHEREAS the current price of fossil fuels does not adequately incorporate externalities of their
7 consumption, and

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9 WHEREAS carbon emissions remain a contributor to climate change which threatens stability
10 and development at all levels of government, and

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12 WHEREAS forty countries and 20 subnational jurisdictions have already committed to carbon
13 pricing, Washington would lead the United States through enacting the first state level carbon
14 tax , and

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16 WHEREAS companies favor regulations based on transparency and feasibility to ensure a just
17 transition to carbon pricing, which exalts a carbon tax from other carbon pricing mechanism, and

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19 WHEREAS I-732 has been endorsed by the 5th Legislative District Democrats, 26th Legislative
20 District Democrats, 32nd Legislative District Democrats, 40th Legislative District Democrats,
21 41st Legislative District Democrats, Kitsap County Democrats, Metropolitan Democratic Club of
22 Seattle, Snohomish County Democrats, Whatcom County Democrats, and Young Democrats of
23 Clark County. in its provisions identified as follows:

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25 1. Reduce the state sales tax by one full percentage point.
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27 2. Fund the Working Families Rebate to provide up to \$ 1500 a year for 400,000 low income
28 working households in Washington state.
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30 3. Effectively eliminate the Business and Occupation tax for manufacturers.
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32 4. Institute a carbon tax of \$ 25 per metric ton of carbon dioxide on fossil fuels consumed in the
33 state of Washington.

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35 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative District, County and State Democratic
36 Party urge its elected officials to endorse I-732 and to pass endorsement resolutions in their
37 jurisdictions and encourage all voters to vote for I-732, and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party at all levels commits to holding
40 Washington State Democratic members of Congress accountable to abide by the clear
41 demands of their constituents and to urge Democrats represented by Republican members of
42 Congress to hold their members of Congress accountable following the November 2016
43 election.

1 **#4: Corporate Naming of Tax Funded Infrastructure Resolution**

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3 WHEREAS infrastructure is a basic need of any organized, modern, civilized, and lasting
4 society, and

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6 WHEREAS adequate roads, bridges, buildings, stadiums, ferries, airports, ports, and similar
7 structure and facilities are funded by taxes raised by the government of all people; and

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9 WHEREAS taxes are best used to pay for infrastructure of benefit to all citizens; and

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11 WHEREAS appropriate levels of taxation benefit all of society by permitting creation of
12 infrastructure; and

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14 WHEREAS infrastructure paid by the people's taxes is a source of civic pride and it's to be
15 owned and enjoyed by all; and

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17 WHEREAS selling of naming rights to taxpayer funded infrastructure diminishes the civic pride
18 in tax funded infrastructure and removes ownership from the people; and

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20 WHEREAS allowing Corporations to usurp credit for tax funded infrastructure unduly conditions
21 the people to accept corporate rule and subordinates the people to corporate rule; and

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23 WHEREAS Corporations are permitted to operate under rules set by society, and are entirely
24 artificial creatures of statute; and

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26 WHEREAS Corporations have been allowed undue influence of excessive wealth to control our
27 society and public agendas and discourse; and

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29 WHEREAS Corporations have rigged the system to amass excessive wealth by unnecessary
30 and counter-productive tax breaks, and to usurp democracy and popular rule by the excessive
31 influence of massive wealth; and

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33 WHEREAS the purchasing of naming rights to publicly funded infrastructure by corporate
34 entities is a symptom of under-taxing those corporations seeking such rights;

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36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the naming of tax-funded buildings, roads, bridges,
37 and facilities after corporate sponsors be prohibited.

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1 **#5: Resolution in Support of Public Electrical Utilities And Their Importance to Resisting**
2 **Climate Change**

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4 WHEREAS climate change remains a critical, urgent, and timely issue in 2016, and

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6 WHEREAS, a significant cause of climate change is the burning of fossil fuels to produce
7 electricity for our homes, businesses, and industry, and for some of us, our electric vehicles;

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9 WHEREAS, a private corporate utility with overseas owners, Puget Sound Energy, uses coal
10 and other fossil fuels as the source for the majority of its electrical power, and it has this year
11 pressed our State Legislature to set aside public funds to help bail them out for the eventual
12 future cost of reversing their business decision to acquire and operate dirty coal-fired power
13 plants in Colstrip, Montana;

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15 WHEREAS, in contrast, our State for nearly a century has been a leader in the dozens of public
16 not-for-profit electric utilities that serve Washington communities with electrical power that is
17 primarily obtained from renewable energy sources, and

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19 WHEREAS, some Washington communities, including Bainbridge Island, seek as early as
20 November 2016 to ask voters to authorize a local public utility for their local community that
21 would have the right to use renewable energy sources from Bonneville Power Administration to
22 replace existing investor-owned utility and its fossil-fuel sourced power,

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24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative District, County, and State Democratic
25 Party urge its elected officials and voters to endorse the authorization, deployment, and
26 operation of existing and new public utilities that would use or continue to use renewable fuel
27 sources to provide electrical power to our communities in Washington in a way that will resist
28 climate change rather than worsening it.

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1 **#6: Resolution in Support of Passing Initiative 735 and Post-Election Follow-up**

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3 WHEREAS the US Supreme Court in its *Citizens United v. FEC and Buckley v. Valeo* decisions
4 construed the spending of money by individuals, corporations and special interests in elections
5 as protected free speech under the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States,
6 and

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8 WHEREAS previous US Supreme Court decisions have eroded the authority of government to
9 regulate campaign contributions and expenditures, and

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11 WHEREAS the prompt disclosure of all political contributions and expenditures in a manner
12 accessible to voters prior to elections is in the best interest of holding free and fair elections; and
13 WHEREAS Initiative 735 seeks to make Washington the 17th state calling for a US
14 constitutional amendment to overturn US Supreme Court decisions that threaten to destroy our
15 democracy, and

16 WHEREAS the Washington State Democratic Central Committee has endorsed I-735 and its
17 provisions identified as follows:

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19 1. The individual rights listed and acknowledged in the Constitution of the United States are the
20 rights of individual human beings only.
21 2. The judiciary shall not construe the spending of money to be free speech under The First
22 Amendment of the Constitution of the United States
23 3. Federal, state, and local governments shall be fully empowered to regulate political
24 contributions and expenditures to ensure that no person or artificial legal entity gains undue
25 influence over government and the political process.
26 4. All political contributions and expenditures shall be disclosed promptly and in a manner
27 accessible to voters prior to elections.

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29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative District, County and State Democratic
30 Party urge its elected officials to endorse I-735 and to pass endorsement resolutions in their
31 jurisdictions and encourage all voters to vote for I-735, and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party at all levels commits to holding
34 Washington State Democratic members of Congress accountable to abide by the wishes of their
35 constituents and to urge Democrats represented by Republican members of Congress to hold
36 their members of Congress accountable following the November 2016 election.

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1 **#7: Resolution to Remove Cannabis from Schedule 1**

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3 WHEREAS the voters and/or legislatures of the States of Alaska Colorado, Oregon and
4 Washington have chosen to remove all criminal penalties for the recreational and medical use of
5 cannabis (marijuana) by their citizens, and
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7 WHEREAS the voters and legislators of twenty-one other States have decriminalized some form
8 of medical marijuana use, and
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10 WHEREAS we now know from one of the participants in its formulation that the so-called War
11 on Drugs was a cynical ploy by political operatives of the Nixon administration to justify
12 increased surveillance of anti-war protesters and civil rights activists and to facilitate wholesale
13 arrests of political opponents, and
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15 WHEREAS for that reason alone cannabis (marijuana) was added to the list of Schedule 1
16 narcotics in 1970, the criteria for which are:

- 17 1) that there be no currently accepted medical use of the drug in the United States,
18 2) that there be a high potential for abuse, and/or addiction, and
19 3) that there are no protocols for safe use of the drug under medical supervision, and
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21 WHEREAS cannabis clearly does not meet the criteria of a dangerous drug as required by the
22 Schedule 1 classification of the Controlled Substances Act, and
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24 WHEREAS there are wide discrepancies in the way cannabis is treated in the laws of the
25 various States, and in the sentences handed down to violators of those laws, and
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27 WHEREAS in States where cannabis is legal under Washington State Law, but remains illegal
28 under Federal Law by virtue of it's listing as a Schedule 1 Narcotic, this creates conflicts for
29 legitimate legal businesses and uncertainty for local law enforcement, banking officials and
30 merchants,
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32 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic voters of the State of Washington hereby
33 petition the President, the Attorney General of the United States, and the Director of the Drug
34 Enforcement Administration to remove cannabis and its associated products from Schedule 1
35 and to discontinue any further criminal actions against those involved in the cultivation,
36 processing, retail distribution, and/or medical or recreational use of cannabis.
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