

Ending the U.S. Occupation of Iraq

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3 **WHEREAS** the war and occupation of Iraq has continued for five years with no prospect of
4 resolution;

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6 **WHEREAS** the invasion and occupation have created a severe burden on our economy, stretched
7 the capacity of our armed forces including Reserve and National Guard troops who are serving
8 unexpectedly long and difficult tours in Iraq, and continues to cause deep concern at home and
9 abroad about the policies and intentions of the United States to the point where the United States is
10 widely regarded with suspicion, hostility and distrust;

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12 **WHEREAS** thousands of American soldiers have been killed and tens of thousands of American
13 soldiers have been wounded;

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15 **WHEREAS** the occupation of Iraq has provided a hotbed of recruiting and training for terrorists;

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17 **WHEREAS** the war has left all Iraqi citizens with severely damaged infrastructure, widespread
18 hunger, homelessness, disease, and death, and in addition has deprived women of rights they had
19 before the war by giving considerable power to extremist religious interests that oppose women's
20 interests;

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22 **WHEREAS** the unemployment rate of Iraqis now exceeds sixty percent while American contractors
23 and corporations hoard the benefits of Iraq's natural resources;

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25 **WHEREAS** over 12 billion dollars per month is being spent for the Iraq occupation, taking dollars
26 away from priorities at home such as reducing the deficit, rebuilding our roads and bridges,
27 introducing universal healthcare, expanding social services, exploring alternative energy sources,
28 and increased investment in education from pre-school through college;

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30 **WHEREAS** our occupation of Iraq fuels the insurgency, which prolongs the destruction of Iraqi
31 communities and infrastructure; and

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33 **WHEREAS** the American and Iraqi people overwhelmingly oppose the occupation;

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35 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party supports an end to
36 this occupation of Iraq and the responsible and swift withdrawal of our military from Iraq;

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38 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party supports
39 our troops by recognizing their brave sacrifices and that soldiers in combat and support missions are
40 not the focus of opposition to the occupation;

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42 **THEREFORE BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party support
43 returning complete sovereignty in their economic and political affairs to the people of Iraq,
44 including control of Iraqi oil;

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46 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party call for
47 long-term support for reconstruction to address the destruction caused by the U.S. invasion, military
48 occupation, and 13 years of economic sanctions;

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50 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party calls for
51 the U.S. government to reject plans for a long-term presence in Iraq, except for those associated with
52 normal diplomatic relations;

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54 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party calls for
55 vigorous U.S. support for an internationally led regional stabilization and peace process that
56 includes all of Iraq's neighbors;

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58 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress halt any attempt by the Bush
59 Administration to forge any and all treaties or binding commitments that would obligate future
60 administrations to provide military support to Iraq; and

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62 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that Washington State Democratic Party distribute
63 copies of this resolution to all Democratic members of the Washington State Congressional
64 Delegation and Democratic Presidential Candidates Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama.

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67 Submitted by the King County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for consideration at
68 its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 4/21/2008)

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70 The Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDED A PASS" at
71 its May 31, 2008 meeting in Ellensburg.

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73 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 14, 2008 meeting
74 in Spokane.

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