

# Rules for the Consideration and Adoption of Resolutions by the WSDCC

As amended by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee on September 26, 2009

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- 1 I. Resolution submitted for consideration and adoption by the Washington State  
2 Democratic Central Committee (WSDCC) must be submitted in compliance with the  
3 following rules.  
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- 5 II. Resolutions must be submitted by one of two types of organizations:  
6 A. Democratic Party Organizations in the state of Washington  
7 B. One of the standing or ad-hoc committees of the WSDCC, a caucus of the  
8 WSDCC, the WSDCC Executive Board, or the Washington State Democratic  
9 Convention.  
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- 11 III. Requirements for the submission of resolutions by Democratic Organizations in the  
12 state of Washington  
13 A. The resolution must be e-mailed to the State Party no later than ten (10) days  
14 prior to the WSDCC meeting at which the resolution is to be considered.  
15 Resolutions should be emailed in a format that can be easily edited, preferably  
16 Microsoft Word. Each resolution received shall be made expeditiously available  
17 to the Resolutions Committee by the State Party Staff.  
18 B. A printed version of the resolution must be received by the State Party no later  
19 than two (2) days prior to the WSDCC meeting at which the resolution is to be  
20 considered.  
21 1. The printed version must be signed by the Chair or Vice Chair of the  
22 Democratic Party Organization submitting the resolution.  
23 C. Resolutions submitted in this manner will be compiled for review and action by  
24 the WSDCC Resolutions Committee.  
25 1. The organization that submits a resolution is encouraged to have a  
26 representative attend the Resolutions Committee meeting to be available  
27 for clarification of the resolution  
28 2. The Resolutions Committee can amend the resolution or combine the  
29 resolution with other resolutions addressing a similar issue and shall  
30 clearly set forth the committee's action.  
31 3. The Resolution Committee's action will be submitted to the WSDCC for  
32 consideration at the general meeting of the WSDCC.  
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- 34 IV. Requirements for submission of resolutions by one of the standing or ad-hoc  
35 committees of the WSDCC or the WSDCC Executive Board or by the WSDCC  
36 membership.  
37 A. Circumstances may dictate that a resolution be drafted by one of the standing or  
38 ad-hoc committees of the WSDCC, a caucus of the WSDCC or the WSDCC  
39 Executive Board immediately prior to or during a WSDCC meeting. A resolution

- 1 may also be presented by any WSDCC member provided it is signed by fifty (50)  
2 WSDCC members.
- 3 B. The Chair of the committee, caucus or board is responsible for making sure that  
4 resolutions of this type are submitted to a member of the State Party staff  
5 immediately following the committee, caucus or board meeting.
- 6 1. A printed version of the resolution must be signed by the Chair or Vice  
7 Chair of the committee, caucus, board or WSDCC maker before it is  
8 distributed to the WSDCC.
- 9 C. Resolutions submitted in this manner will be compiled for review and action by  
10 the WSDCC.
- 11
- 12 V. All resolutions must be drafted in the same manner as the resolution attached to the end  
13 of these rules and titled "**Sample Resolution - Re-Focus Border Patrol Operations to**  
14 **Interdiction at the Border.**" Important elements of this formatting include the  
15 following:
- 16 A. The title of the resolution must be clearly and concisely stated at the beginning of  
17 the resolution.
- 18 B. The resolution must contain at least one "**WHEREAS**" stating the situation to be  
19 addressed by the resolution.
- 20 C. The resolution must contain at least one "**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**"  
21 stating the action or actions to be taken if the resolution is adopted.
- 22 D. Clauses should be worded as if written from the point of view of the WSDCC  
23 and not the organization originally submitting the resolution.
- 24 E. The resolution must contain the name of the organization submitting the  
25 resolution and the date it was submitted at the bottom of the resolution.
- 26
- 27 VI. Responsibilities of the Resolutions Committee
- 28 A. The Resolutions Committee will review each proposed resolution for the  
29 following elements:
- 30 1. Timely submission, as specified in III.A and III.B  
31 2. Proper submission, as specified in II.  
32 3. Proper elements, as specified in V.
- 33 B. The Resolutions Committee will further review each proposed resolution for a  
34 reasonable, attainable, and limited scope of action in the "Resolved" clauses.
- 35 1. Any action resolved must be within the power of the Chairman and staff,  
36 or the State Central Committee.
- 37 2. Any action resolved must be appropriately limited in scope, difficulty and  
38 cost appropriate to the resolution.
- 39 C. The Resolutions Committee will amend or reject any resolution that has not met  
40 all above criteria.  
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- 1 VII. Resolutions submitted for consideration and action at the general meeting of the  
2 WSDCC.
- 3 A. All resolutions shall be distributed to WSDCC Members and their proxies prior  
4 to the general meeting of the WSDCC.
- 5 1. The resolutions will reflect any changes adopted by the Resolutions  
6 Committee.
- 7 2. The resolutions will include the recommendation of the Resolutions  
8 Committee.
- 9 3. In all other matters not covered expressly by these rules the Charter and  
10 Bylaws of the WSDCC and Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, shall  
11 prevail.
- 12 4. Following adoption of a resolution by the WSDCC appropriate action will  
13 be taken by the Chair of the WSDCC including, but not limited to the  
14 transmission of resolution to effected officials.
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### **List of Resolution Issues and Abbreviations**

<b>AGR</b>	Agriculture
<b>CIV</b>	Civil and Human Rights
<b>CORP</b>	Corporate Power
<b>ECON</b>	Economic Justice and Development
<b>EDU</b>	Education
<b>ENV</b>	Energy and the Environment
<b>FOR</b>	Foreign Policy
<b>GOV</b>	Government and Political Reform
<b>HEA</b>	Health Care
<b>HUM</b>	Human Services
<b>IMM</b>	Immigration
<b>PAR</b>	Internal Party Business
<b>LAB</b>	Labor
<b>LAW</b>	Law and Justice
<b>MED</b>	Media Reform
<b>MIL</b>	Military and Veterans
<b>TRAN</b>	Transportation
<b>TRIB</b>	Tribal Relations

## Summary of Resolution Notation

All resolutions have their title listed in the upper right hand corner of the page. Here is a sample of a resolution title.

### **WSDCCRES - 427 - 090425 - SUB - LAW - Border Patrol Activity**

The title consists of several parts, which are explained below.

<b>WSDCCRES</b>	<b>The body that passed the resolution.</b> Resolutions are separated based on which body passed them. The majority of resolutions are passed by the WSDCC, and their titles begin "WSDCCRES". Resolutions passed by a State Convention are considered separate from those both resolutions passed by the WSDCC and resolutions passed by other State Conventions. Each State Convention has a unique identifier (2006SCRES, 2008SCRES, 2010SCRES), indicating which resolutions were passed by that State Convention.
<b>427</b>	<b>The resolution's number.</b> Resolutions are given a number, based on the approximate order in which they were submitted. Resolutions submitted to the WSDCC are numbered as a group, beginning with WSDCCRES 000 and increasing from meeting to meeting as more resolutions are submitted. By contrast, each State Convention has its own numbering system. This means that "WSDCCRES 427" is a separate resolution from "2008SCRES 427", which is separate from "2010SCRES 427".
<b>090425</b>	<b>The date of last action on the resolution.</b> In the case of passed resolutions, like the ones listed below, this is the date the resolution passed. Dates are formatted as year, month, day, so 090425 is April 25, 2009.
<b>SUB</b>	<b>The last action taken on the resolution.</b> Examples of actions include "PASS" (passed), "NOPASS" (not passed), "TABLE" (tabled until a later date), and "REFORG" (referred to originator).
<b>LAW</b>	<b>The issue that the resolution is addressing.</b> The State Party staff separates submitted resolutions into eighteen categories, each of which represents an issue. Examples of these issues are "Agriculture", "Civil and Human Rights", and "Law and Justice". See the previous page for a full list of issues and their abbreviations.
<b>Border Patrol Activity</b>	<b>The resolution's short title.</b> The State Party staff gives each submitted resolution a short title, which briefly explains the topic of the issue.

**Sample Resolution**  
**Re-Focus Border Patrol Operations to  
Interdiction at the Border**

1 **WHEREAS** there has been an expansion of mission, facilities, and personnel of the U.S. Border  
2 Patrol under the Department of Homeland Security including plans for increased detention  
3 capabilities;

4  
5 **WHEREAS** this expansion comes at a time of reduced funding for basic government services;

6  
7 **WHEREAS** the US Border Patrol is placing random checkpoints on highways away from the  
8 border and conducting internal patrols within communities;

9  
10 **WHEREAS** the location of checkpoints, the frequency of stops, and the venues selected for  
11 community surveillance raise concerns of racial profiling;

12  
13 **WHEREAS** ordinary crime control is the responsibility of local law enforcement agencies and  
14 Border Patrol intrusion into their jurisdictions interferes with community policing strategies that  
15 build long-term relationships of trust and accountability;

16  
17 **WHEREAS** judicial precedent states that checkpoints must have an actual connection with  
18 substantial traffic from a proximate border and are not to be used for ordinary crime control  
19 purposes, raising questions about the legality of the current program; and

20  
21 **WHEREAS** Congressman Norm Dicks and Senator Maria Cantwell have expressed similar  
22 concerns in letters to Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security;

23  
24 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democratic Central Committee,  
25 call for a suspension of expanded Border Patrol activities away from the border until their utility,  
26 legality and constitutionality have been determined by the U.S. Congress and courts;

27  
28 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that during this suspension we call for an evaluation  
29 of the utility of the current expansion of Border Patrol mission, facilities and personnel, and an  
30 evaluation of the opportunity costs of this federal expenditure while core government services are  
31 being cut for lack of funding;

32  
33 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call on local law enforcement officers to  
34 continue to uphold their sworn oath to protect the constitutional rights and liberties of the  
35 members of our communities; and

36  
37

1 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democratic Central  
2 Committee, urge our elected federal officials to pursue a reformed approach to securing our  
3 border which focuses on interdiction at the border, preserves constitutional protections and  
4 respects local law enforcement.

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7 Submitted by the Jefferson County Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central  
8 Committee for consideration at its April 25, 2009 meeting in Tacoma. (Date Submitted 4/8/2009)