Ban Provision of Security in Public Places by Armed Private Contractors within the Boundaries of the United States

WHEREAS armed private security contractors were reported to have been operating on public property and thoroughfares without restraint or under the jurisdiction of local law enforcement during the Hurricane Katrina disaster response;

WHEREAS there has been increasing use of armed private security contractors to provide security in publicly-accessed places such as shopping malls, sports arenas and public universities;

WHEREAS actions by members of these armed private security contractors can spill over onto adjacent publicly-owned properties, facilities and thoroughfares; and

WHEREAS the rights of citizens to access records of interactions between themselves and members of these armed private security contractors are unclear in civil law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee call upon the Washington State Delegation to the 111th (2009) Congress to pass laws banning all armed private security contractors from receiving any Government contracts for providing security to publicly-owned properties, facilities, and thoroughfares within the borders of the United States.

Submitted by the Jefferson County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 5/2/2008)

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

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