

Resolution Against Wiretapping and Government Surveillance without Warrants

WHEREAS, terrorism is a current problem, and it is necessary for the safety of the citizens and the union to secure intelligence; and

WHEREAS, Congress has established laws allowing for surveillance of suspected terrorists and their associates that includes an established judicial oversight process to assure that surveillance is done within the law; and

WHEREAS, the President has chosen to circumvent this for three years with his own personal assumption that he has that right under the Patriot Act; and

WHEREAS, government infringement on citizens' civil liberties is against the safeguards of the constitution; and

WHEREAS, the President does not have the legal right to circumvent the country's established laws and constitutional protections; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington State Democratic Party opposes the wiretapping and surveillance of United States citizens without the consent and legal warrants of the courts of jurisdiction.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Party condemns domestic spying using electronic means by agencies of the federal government on U.S. citizens as illegal and unconstitutional;

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Party supports immediate Congressional action, such as the appointment of an independent counsel, to hold President Bush and those in his administration responsible for this illegal behavior and to be held accountable in a court of law as expeditiously as possible.

Submitted by the delegates of the Chelan County Convention to the Washington State Democratic Party for consideration at its June 3, 2006 convention in Yakima (Date Submitted 04/08/2006).

The Washington State Democratic Party at its State Convention on June 3, 2006 in Yakima referred this resolution to the WSDCC Resolutions Committee for review at its September 9 - 10, 2006 meeting in Ellensburg.

43 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee amended this resolution and recommended a
44 "Pass" at its September 10, 2006 meeting in Ellensburg. The resolution will be
45 forwarded to the WSDCC at its next meeting on September 29 - 30, 2006 in Tacoma.
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47 The WSDCC passed this resolution as amended at its September 30, 2006 meeting in
48 Tacoma.