

1 **Resolution on Endorsement of the**
2 **Joint Memorial Addressing Deficit Reduction and Jobs**

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4 **WHEREAS** the Washington State Democrats Platform supports the Joint Memorial
5 Addressing Deficit Reduction and Jobs; and

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7 **WHEREAS** this joint memorial is presently being addressed in Senate Joint Memorial
8 8083, having been introduced by Senator Chase and Senator Tom, and House Joint
9 Memorial 4013, introduced by Representative Hasegawa and supported by
10 Representatives Santos, Kenney, Goodman, Ryu, Appleton , Dunshee, Pollet, Ormsby,
11 Pettigrew, Stanford, Takko, Dickerson, Reykdal, Hunt, and Moscoso;

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13 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central
14 Committee endorses the Joint Memorial as written and modified by the House and
15 Senate.

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17 ***The full text of the Joint Memorial is attached to this resolution.**
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20 Submitted by the Progressive Caucus to the Washington State Democratic Central
21 Committee for consideration at its January 28, 2012 meeting in Shelton. (Date Submitted
22 1/11/2012)

23
24 Submitted by the 45th Legislative District Democrats to the Washington State
25 Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its January 28, 2012 meeting in
26 Shelton. (Date Submitted 1/12/2012)

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28 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee “AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND
29 RECOMMENDED A PASS” at its January 28, 2012 meeting in Shelton.

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31 The WSDCC “PASSED” this resolution at its January 28, 2012 meeting in Shelton.
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A Joint Memorial Addressing Deficit Reduction and Jobs

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TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of
Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent and petition as
follows:

Whereas, our State, as most others, faces the most severe economic crisis since the Great
Depression; and

Whereas, the unemployment rate in the State of Washington as of August 2011 reached
9.3%; and the poverty rate 11.7%; and

Whereas, eleven counties in the State of Washington are experiencing unemployment
rates between 9.9% and 13.5%; and

Whereas, since FY2001 taxpayers in the State of Washington have paid \$26 billion
toward the total spending for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

Whereas, taxpayers in the State of Washington will pay an additional \$3.5 billion
toward total Iraq and Afghanistan war spending for FY2011; bringing the total war
spending bill for Washington State taxpayers to \$29.5 billion; and

Whereas, one year of taxpayer war spending dollars could have alternately built our
state infrastructure by creating 48,461 school teacher jobs, or hiring 45,205 firefighters,
or creating enough jobs to convert 1.3 million households to solar energy, or creating
42,585 new police or sheriff's patrol officer positions, or providing 113,000 four year
university scholarships; and

Whereas, 11.7% of soldiers that fought in Iraq and Afghanistan are unemployed, with
many having inadequate support to adjust to civilian life; and

Whereas, counties with military facilities are experiencing the highest foreclosure rates
in Washington State, and the already high number of homeless veterans is increasing;
and

74 Whereas, in February of 2011 the State Legislature passed House Bill 1432 relating to
75 veterans' relief by permitting private employers to exercise a voluntary veterans'
76 preference in employment; and
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78 Whereas, for every \$1 billion spent on the military 11,600 jobs are created, yet for the
79 same billion dollars 17,100 jobs are created by investments in clean energy; or 19,600
80 jobs are created by funding health care; or 29,100 jobs are created from spending on
81 education; and
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83 Whereas, the Pentagon budget was \$297 billion when President Clinton left office, and
84 the proposed 2012 fiscal year Pentagon budget is more than double that amount at \$703
85 billion, with military spending by other agencies raising that total to more than \$1
86 trillion; and

87 Whereas, adjusting for inflation, the level of funding proposed for the base defense
88 budget in the FY12 request comprises over 60% of the national discretionary budget, the
89 highest level since World War II; and
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91 Whereas, the United States military budget presently represents 43% of worldwide
92 military spending; distantly followed by China (7.3% of world share), UK (3.7%), France
93 (3.6%), and Russia (3.6%); and
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95 Whereas, the Washington State Governor and Legislature have had to cut nearly \$10.5
96 billion from current and projected spending with another \$1.4 billion in reductions
97 looming, resulting in significant job losses and cuts to vital programs;
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99 Whereas, projected revenues for Washington State continue to plummet, wiping out
100 our state reserves; and
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102 Whereas, this drain on the public treasury is bleeding our state and forcing increasingly
103 severe cuts in vital social programs and public services, resulting in the inability of state
104 government to support job creation and meet the most basic needs of our people, while
105 producing ever greater debt that will be borne by future generations;
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107 THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully call upon:
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109 Congress and the President to change course by ending the wars in Iraq and
110 Afghanistan, dramatically shifting our national priorities to create stable jobs at living
111 wages for all who seek employment; restoring vital social programs and public services;
112 rebuilding our nation's deteriorating infrastructure; and putting our nation on an
113 environmentally sustainable, ecologically responsible path that addresses the challenge
114 of climate change and environmental degradation while reinvigorating jobs and our
115 economy.
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117 BE IT RESOLVED, that copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the
118 Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, the President of the United
119 States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate
120 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of each state's legislature of the United
121 States of America, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.