

Fair Compensation for Washington State Community and Technical College Faculties

WHEREAS community colleges in Washington complete up to 60% of the higher education in the state while utilizing only 44% of the higher education budget; and

WHEREAS Washington community and technical colleges have lost 33% of the value of their wages since 1970; and

WHEREAS Washington State 2-year college faculty are paid nearly 20% below the average of the Top 7 comparable peers in the state "Global Challenge" program as indexed and asserted by the Governor's Washington Learns Study;

WHEREAS public teaching employees of Washington 2-year colleges are unique in that their wages are strictly confined to state legislative appropriations for approval and the only faculty that are legally bared from negotiating for fair compensation; and

WHEREAS the Democratic Party of Washington supports fair and equal labor and bargaining rights for the working people of this state;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Party call upon Washington State Senate Majority Leader Lisa Brown and Washington State Speaker of the House Frank Chopp to produce legislation in the 2009 legislative session to equalize the bargaining rights of 2-year faculty with their educational colleagues in K-12 public schools and 4-year state colleges and universities by providing community and technical college faculty bargaining units the right to bargain for compensation commensurate with their counterparts in other state-run educational institutions.

Submitted by the Kitsap County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 5/1/2008)

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.