

1 **Opposing Bush Administration Plan to Use Washington**
2 **State as a National Radioactive Waste Dump and**
3 **Supporting the Principle of Cleanup of Hanford's**
4 **Contamination Before More Waste is Dumped**
5

6 **WHEREAS**, over a million gallons of High-Level Nuclear Waste has leaked from tanks
7 at Hanford and the contamination is spreading towards the Columbia River;
8

9 **WHEREAS**, Hanford is the most contaminated area in the Western Hemisphere.
10 Instead of cleaning up the contamination, the Bush Administration continues to fight to
11 use Hanford as a national radioactive waste dump and to rename and abandon High-
12 Level Nuclear Waste in leaking tanks;
13

14 **WHEREAS**, The Washington State Democrats supported Initiative 297, requiring
15 cleanup of Hanford before more waste can be dumped, and which the voters of
16 Washington State passed in 2004 with the highest vote ever in state history. However,
17 the federal Energy Department is suing to overturn the will of Washington's Voters in
18 order to use Hanford as a national radioactive waste dump for waste from nuclear
19 weapons plants, and to avoid emptying and cleaning up High-Level Nuclear Waste
20 tanks; and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, tens of thousands of truckloads of radioactive waste would come through
23 our communities from Spokane to Vancouver to Bellevue if Hanford is a national
24 radioactive waste dump;
25

26 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Washington State Democratic Party that:
27

28 The Washington State Democratic Party supports the implementation and
29 defense of Initiative 297 adopted by Washington's voters to require cleanup of
30 Hanford and protection of the Columbia River before more waste can be
31 dumped;
32

33 The Washington State Democratic Party supports the efforts of Senator Maria
34 Cantwell to turn back the Bush Administration's legislation to rename and
35 abandon High-Level Nuclear Waste in leaking tanks (for which she was named
36 Columbia River Protector of the Year); and, the efforts of Washington's
37 Democrats to ensure cleanup is funded
38

39 The Platform of the Democratic Party of Washington supports the principles
40 adopted by the voters in Initiative 297 that require cleanup of contamination and
41 oppose dumping of more waste at Hanford and use of our State as a national
42 radioactive waste dump.

43

44

45 Submitted by the King County Democratic Central Committee to the Washington State
46 Democratic Party for consideration at its June 3, 2006 convention in Yakima (Date
47 Submitted 05/24/2006)

48

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

52

53 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee recommended a "Pass" on this resolution at its
54 September 10, 2006 meeting in Ellensburg. The resolution will be forwarded to the
55 WSDCC at its next meeting on September 29 - 30, 2006 in Tacoma.

56

57 The WSDCC passed this resolution at its September 30, 2006 meeting in Tacoma.