

Alternative to Selling National Forest Lands

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3 **WHEREAS** our National Forest lands are a treasure for our country and its citizens; and

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5 **WHEREAS** they are irreplaceable, are an integral part of our national identity, and
6 should be protected as intended when set aside as National Forests; and

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8 **WHEREAS** 300,000 acres of National Forest land is being considered for sale to raise
9 \$800 million for rural schools in 41 states; and

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11 **WHEREAS** the need for education funding can be met by *enforcing* a 3% tax on federal
12 contractors and closing a loophole in federal contracts by withholding that 3% up front
13 on federal payments for goods and services delivered by private contractors; and

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15 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party supports
16 Senators Max Baucus of Montana and Ron Wyden of Oregon in their plan that would
17 raise \$2.6 billion during the next 10 years by closing said tax loophole.

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20 Submitted by Whatcom County Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Party
21 for consideration at its June 3, 2006 convention in Yakima (Date Submitted 05/04/2006)

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

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

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