

Resolution on Global Climate Change

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3 **WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including more than 2000
4 scientists world-wide in one of the largest peer-reviewed scientific collaborations in
5 history, is warning that the burning of fossil fuels and release of carbon dioxide into our
6 atmosphere is significantly intensifying global warming; and

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8 **WHEREAS**, rapid global warming is causing devastating ecological instability as
9 temperature changes outpace the capacity of plant and animal species to adapt; and is
10 contributing to instability in agricultural production, and to increasing breeding rates
11 and ranges of insects and micro-organisms that cause human disease; and

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13 **WHEREAS**, rapid global warming is accelerating the melting of glaciers and ice sheets
14 world-wide at rates faster than predicted by scientists, as evidenced by the accelerated
15 melting of the Greenland ice sheet, and creating conditions for more frequent and
16 intense storms and rising sea levels threatening to endanger and displace hundreds of
17 millions of people; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, positive feedback loops, including forest fires caused by increased
20 temperatures releasing additional carbon dioxide and thawing of tundra releasing
21 methane (another potent greenhouse gas), have the potential to further increase rates of
22 global climate change; and

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24 **WHEREAS**, the Kyoto Protocol objectives are now insufficient to the magnitude of the
25 growing climate crisis, and scientists warn that modest changes in greenhouse gas
26 emissions in developed countries could be swamped by emissions by rapidly
27 developing countries, recommending an urgent global greenhouse gas emissions
28 reduction of 70%; and

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30 **WHEREAS**, technologies already exist to begin a rapid decrease in carbon emissions
31 through implementing conservation and energy efficiency measures, and building
32 renewable energy infrastructure; and

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34 **WHEREAS**, economies around the world could be revitalized and enhanced with high
35 quality and meaningful jobs in developing, manufacturing, installing and maintaining
36 renewable energy infrastructure; and

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38 **WHEREAS**, responding to the global climate crisis would also result in achieving the
39 energy independence increasingly promoted by both Democratic and Republican
40 elected officials;

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42 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Our WA State Congressional Delegation is urged to
43 actively oppose any Energy Appropriations Bills that do not include a massive and

44 urgent shift of subsidies from fossil fuels to energy conservation and efficiency, and to
45 renewable energy, including solar, wind, tidal, micro-hydro and non-GMO biomass
46 fuels; and

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48 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Our WA State Congressional Delegation
49 is urged to actively write, support and promote legislation to:

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51 1) Reduce U.S. carbon emissions by 5% per year, first through implementing
52 energy conservation and efficiency measures, and then by building
53 renewable energy infrastructure; and

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55 2) Implement a massive transfer of renewable energy technologies to the
56 world's most rapidly growing economies dependent on coal, especially
57 India and China, and to countries that currently derive their economic
58 stability from fossil fuel production, especially countries of the Middle
59 East which are especially suited to solar energy development; and

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61 3) Implement solutions to global warming in proportion to the magnitude of
62 our energy crisis, such as supporting the bipartisan H.R. 507 Expressing
63 the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States, in
64 collaboration with other international allies, should establish an energy
65 project with the magnitude, creativity, and sense of urgency that was
66 incorporated in the "Man on the Moon" project to address the inevitable
67 challenges of "Peak Oil", and

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69 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Senate and the Assembly of the
70 State of Washington are hereby directed to write and promote legislation for the
71 immediate implementation of a Washington State Greenhouse Gas Action Plan, taking
72 into account the practices and recommendations of other states which have already
73 implemented such a plan.

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76 Submitted by Whatcom County Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Party
77 for consideration at its June 3, 2006, convention in Yakima (Date Submitted 05/03/2006)

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

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

86

87 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee recommended a "Pass" at its September 29, 2006
88 meeting in Tacoma. The resolution will be forwarded to the WSDCC at its meeting on
89 September 30, 2006 in Tacoma.

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91 The WSDCC passed this resolution as amended at its September 30, 2006 meeting in
92 Tacoma.

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94 From: Rena Patty [mailto:rena@rockisland.com]
95 Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2006 1:13 PM
96 To: Jaxon Ravens
97 Subject: For Sept 29-30 Resolutions Committee meeting, WSDCC - Resolution - 160 -
98 REFSC - Global Climate Change - edited version

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100 Hi Jaxon,

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102 I am sending this to you to make certain that this comes through the official
103 channels. In reviewing the work of the Sept 9-10 Resolutions Committee
104 meeting, I noticed that this resolution that we recommended for passage,
105 "WSDCC Resolution - 160 - Global Climate Change", needed some editing to
106 remove excess words, plus a couple other minor "friendly" edits. I asked Jean
107 Brooks about this, and she offered assurance that this is possible and that she
108 would make time to consider these edits at our next meeting.

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110 Thank-you again for all your work!

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112 Rena Patty, San Juan County SCW