

Resolution on the Ongoing Genocide in Darfur

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3 **WHEREAS**, Since early 2003, a conflict between forces of the Government of the
4 Republic of Sudan, including militia forces backed by the Government, and rebel forces
5 in the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan has resulted in attacks by ground
6 and air forces of the Government of Sudan against innocent civilians and undefended
7 villages in the region; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, The militia forces backed by the Government of Sudan have also engaged
10 in the use of rape as a weapon of war, the abduction of children, the destruction of food
11 and water sources, and the deliberate and systematic manipulation and denial of
12 humanitarian assistance for the people of the Darfur region; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, the United Nations Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan
15 Egeland, has declared that the Darfur region is probably "the world's worst
16 humanitarian catastrophe," reporting that in Darfur, "a sequence of deliberate actions
17 has been observed that seem aimed at
18 achieving a specific objective: The forcible and long-term displacement of the targeted
19 communities which may also be termed 'ethnic cleansing'" including horrifying attacks
20 against civilians in villages by government warplanes, soldiers, and pro-government
21 militia: and

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23 **WHEREAS**, the UN has identified the region as the scene of "catastrophic mortality
24 rates" and the United States has declared a genocide in Darfur; and

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26 **WHEREAS**, on May 19, 2006, because of a \$389,000,000 funding shortfall, because the
27 Sudanese government is refusing visas to a UN assessment team preparing for the UN
28 force for Darfur, and because the African Union force now in place has been unable to
29 halt the violence there
30 despite a recent peace agreement, Mr. Egeland warned the UN Security Council, "We
31 can turn the corner toward reconciliation and reconstruction or see an even worse
32 collapse of our efforts to provide protection and relief to millions of people;" and

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34 **WHEREAS**, the violence in Darfur has spread to Chad; and

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36 **WHEREAS**, after the genocide of the Holocaust the world and our community have
37 declared that genocide shall never be allowed to occur again;

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39 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we call upon the Government of the United
40 States of America to take leadership in working with the international community and
41 the United Nations to ensure unconditional, and immediate access to Darfur by
42 humanitarian aid organizations, and to ensure funding for this effort; and

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44 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Government work
45 with the international community to ensure that the individuals responsible for crimes
46 against humanity in Darfur are held accountable for their actions and that witnesses
47 and victims are protected; and

48 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Government bend
49 all efforts to bring about a peaceful solution to the Darfur crisis and stop the genocide;
50 and

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52 **THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the
53 President and to Washington State's senators and all members of our Congressional
54 delegation
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57 Submitted by the Washington State Jewish Caucus to the Washington State Democratic
58 Party for consideration at its June 3, 2006 convention in Yakima, WA (Date Submitted
59 05/30/2006)
60

61 **This Resolution was Endorsed by the Following**
62 **Delegates to the 2006 Democratic State Convention**

63
64 43rd: Linda Clifton, Bill Sherman, Tara Gallagher, Hillary Madsen, Rob Dolin, Sam
65 Ross, Sarah Gaither (7)

66 26th: Anita Latch (1)

67 34th: Michael Taylor, Robin Hess (2)

68 22nd: Alan Corwin, Debby Pattin (2)

69 45th: Ralph Gorin (1)

70 47th: Evelyn Reymond (1)

71 41st: Aaron Belenky (1)

72 33rd: Tina Shamseldin (1)

73 Grays Harbor: Jim Eddy (1)
74

75 Referred to the WSDCC with a recommendation of "Pass" by the State Party Platform
76 Committee at its June 2, 2006 meeting in Yakima.
77

78 Passed by the Washington State Democratic Party at its State Convention held on June
79 3, 2006 in Yakima.