

Resolution Urging Modified Border Controls in Gaza

WHEREAS since 2006, when Hamas became the party controlling leadership of government in Gaza, Israel and Egypt have controlled traffic and the movement of goods between Gaza the surrounding lands and waters;

WHEREAS in March 2009, \$4.5 billion in aid for the Palestinians in Gaza was pledged including \$554 million by the European Union, \$900 million by the United States, and \$1.65 billion by the Gulf Arab states, conditioned on the funds not being accessible by Hamas, but disbursed by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency;

WHEREAS all aid to Gaza is delivered through four checkpoints, three controlled by Israel and one by Egypt; and

WHEREAS the Gaza population continues to exist in a state of great deprivation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Washington State Democrats urge the United States government to work with the United Nations Relief and Work Agency, and the governments of Israel and Egypt to modify the blockade to allow the resumption of traffic and transfer of people and goods, including medical and civilian construction supplies, but excluding weapons and weapons components;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of State, the National Security Adviser, and the Washington State Congressional delegation along with a request for response within thirty days, listing the actions they are willing to take to support this resolution or a list of the reasons explaining why it cannot be supported.

Submitted by the Pierce County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its June 26 convention in Vancouver. (Date Submitted 4/20/2010)

Recommended Pass with amendments by the Subcommittee on Foreign Policy, Government and Political Reform, and the Military. (Date Considered 5/2/2010)

Recommended Pass with amendments by the State Convention Platform Committee. (Date Considered 6/5/2010)

The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 26, 2010 meeting in Vancouver.