

Fair Share Health Care

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3 **WHEREAS**, 600,000 Washingtonians lack health insurance; and

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5 **WHEREAS**, the Washington health care safety net, the Basic Health Plan (BHP) is
6 consistently searching for funding; and

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8 **WHEREAS**, eligible, uninsured Washingtonians cannot receive benefits on the BHP as
9 there are not sufficient slots; and

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11 **WHEREAS**, a 2004 report stated that more than 3,100 Wal-Mart workers, half of whom
12 work full-time, are on the taxpayer-funded BHP; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, other large employers, such as McDonald's shift their health care costs to
15 taxpayers via the BHP; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, employers currently have no incentive to not join in to the "race to the
18 bottom" by shifting their health care costs to taxpayers via the BHP; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, the Fair Share Health Care bill (HB2517/SB6356) of 2006 would require
21 employers with 5,000 or more employees to spend at least 9% of their payroll on health
22 care, and non-profits would spend 7%; and

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24 **WHEREAS**, Governor Gregoire committed to passing a "perfected" Fair Share Health
25 Care bill in 2007;

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27 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party join with
28 the Fair Share Health Care Coalition of church organizations, business leaders, unions,
29 and retirees in supporting Fair Share Health Care legislation in the 2007 Washington
30 State Legislative session in respectfully directing their Washington State delegation to
31 work to enact said legislation.
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34 Submitted by the King County Democratic Central Committee to the Washington State
35 Democratic Party for consideration at its June 3, 2006 convention in Yakima (Date
36 Submitted 05/24/2006)

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

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

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