

1 **Resolution Against Exploitation of the**
2 **Aged and Frail by Elder Care Facilities**
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4 **WHEREAS** Section VIII, "Senior Civil and Human Rights," in the 1998 Platform of the
5 32nd Legislative District Democratic Caucus, contained a plank calling for better
6 supervision of adult family homes;
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8 **WHEREAS** many of us felt righteous indignation when we saw the three-part
9 investigative series, "Seniors for Sale: How the Aged and Frail are Exploited in
10 Washington's Adult Family Homes," by Michael J. Berens (Seattle Times staff reporter),
11 which appeared on the front page, continued on inside pages, of the Seattle Times on
12 January 31, February 1 and 2, 2010;
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14 **WHEREAS** some of us felt especially indignant when we saw the series headline,
15 "Neglect and death, but home stays open: State knew of chronic violations; families
16 didn't," on Monday, Feb. 1, 2010;
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18 **WHEREAS** stronger measures are needed to prevent exploitation of the aged and frail
19 by so-called Adult Family Homes and other care facilities and functionaries; and
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21 **WHEREAS** families have a vital role in elder care. The family should never be shut out
22 or kept "in the dark," or "out of the loop," and never be kept ignorant of what is being
23 done to their loved by elder care facilities and functionaries;
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25 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democratic Party, urge
26 the Washington legislature to enact a bill to require that, when government knows of or
27 suspects abuse, neglect or exploitation of a patient, resident or client by an elder care
28 facility or functionary, then the family must be notified; and
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30 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be
31 transmitted to relevant officials along with a request for response within thirty days,
32 listing the actions they are willing to take to support this resolution or a list of the
33 reasons explaining why it cannot be supported.
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35 Submitted by the 32nd LD Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for
37 consideration at its June 26 convention in Vancouver. (Date Submitted 4/21/2010)
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39 Recommended Pass with amendments by the Subcommittee on Human Rights, Civil
40 Rights and Human Services, Immigration, Indian Tribes and Sovereignty, and Law and
41 Justice. (Date Considered 5/2/2010)

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43 Recommended Pass with amendments by the State Convention Platform Committee.

44 (Date Considered 6/5/2010)

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46 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 26,

47 2010 meeting in Vancouver.