

1       **Resolution Requesting that Our Representatives and**  
2       **Candidates for Congress Take a Public Stand Against**  
3       **Cutting Social Security and Medicare**

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5       **WHEREAS** Social Security and Medicare are among the most significant and politically  
6       popular legislative accomplishments of the Democratic Party;

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8       **WHEREAS** both programs are currently being threatened with significant cuts by  
9       National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, which is stacked with vocal  
10      public opponents of both programs and is completely unaccountable to voters;

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12      **WHEREAS** long-term unemployment and the concomitant spending down of  
13      retirement savings combined with widespread age discrimination has been particularly  
14      devastating for those over 55;

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16      **WHEREAS** Representative Raul Grijalva is currently circulating a letter in Congress in  
17      defense of Social Security;

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19      **WHEREAS** coalitions of union members, health care advocates, retirees and those close  
20      to retirement age are circulating pledges to defend Social Security and Medicare;

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22      **WHEREAS** it would be very wise politically to give Strong Democrats (59% of whom  
23      are women and 73% over 50, in the state of Washington) the assurance that Democrats  
24      will not allow such serious threats to their economic security to stand;

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26      **WHEREAS** the widespread popularity of Social Security and Medicare makes  
27      defending those programs a powerful political weapon against Republicans (as  
28      Representative Reichert realized when he came out against raising the Social Security  
29      retirement age); and

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31      **WHEREAS** no member of our congressional delegation has signed Grijalva's letter yet,  
32      and only Representative Jim McDermott and candidate Suzan del Bene have agreed to  
33      sign the Social Security defense pledge;

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35      **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats request all of  
36      our representatives and candidates to sign Representative Grijalva's letter;

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38      **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats  
39      request all of our representatives and candidates to sign the Social Security Works-WA  
40      pledge; and

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42      **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats

43 request all of our representatives and candidates to sign a pledge to defend Medicare.

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46 Submitted by the 11<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central  
47 Committee for consideration at its October 9, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake. (Date  
48 Submitted 9/21/2010)

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50 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "RECOMMENDED A PASS" on this resolution at  
51 its October 8, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake.

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53 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its October 9, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake.