

## Immigration

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3 **WHEREAS** women and children are more than half of the almost 12 million  
4 undocumented immigrants in the US;

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6 **WHEREAS** immigrant women are the most vulnerable to exploitation, abuse and  
7 human rights violations and face particular challenges due to inequalities between men  
8 and women, while having the additional responsibilities of family and home;

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10 **WHEREAS** immigrant women often come to the U.S. to be domestic workers or  
11 caregivers, are subject to exploitation, work for substandard wages, and may have to  
12 leave their own children behind to be raised by relatives;

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14 **WHEREAS** immigrant women and their children not only face language, cultural and  
15 community isolation and live at the margins of society without documents, but also  
16 suffer as victims of family and sexual violence and have little or no resources to get help  
17 including language and culturally sensitive counseling and services; and

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19 **WHEREAS** the current discussion in the U.S. Congress and in many cities with large  
20 immigrant populations is filled with racist and hate-filled calls for making felons out of  
21 undocumented immigrants, building more prisons, walls and electric fences, and  
22 promoting vigilante tactics;

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24 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic Party of Washington State urge  
25 the Washington congressional delegation to institute fair and just immigration reform  
26 that recognizes human and civil rights; and

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28 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic  
29 Central Committee urges the Washington State Congressional Delegation to introduce  
30 legislation to create a path to permanent residency and citizenship, including a  
31 reasonable timetable, for undocumented immigrants who want to remain in the United  
32 States, including men, women and children and especially those who do not work  
33 outside of the home; promote reunification of families, provisions to improve wages  
34 and working conditions of immigrant workers to protect them from exploitation,  
35 preserving the provisions addressing violence against immigrant women and families  
36 in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and a more efficient system to process  
37 those eligible to work and seek permanent residency/citizenship, one that excludes the  
38 building of prisons and border fences and walls.

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41 Submitted by the San Juan County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for  
42 consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 4/22/2008)

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44 The Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDED  
45 A PASS" at its May 31, 2008 meeting in Ellensburg.  
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47 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 14,  
48 2008 meeting in Spokane.