

Resolution Calling for Restoration of Congressional Oversight and Defense of the Constitution

WHEREAS the Constitution contains numerous requirements, both explicit and implicit, for Congressional oversight of the Executive Branch;

WHEREAS Congress is an integral part of the American system of checks and balances;

WHEREAS the Bush White House has repeatedly and flagrantly violated the Constitution, Federal Law, International Law and solemn Treaties, and has in innumerable instances failed to fulfill it's fundamental Constitutional duties to faithfully execute the Laws enacted by Congress;

WHEREAS the effect of the Bush White House's repeated violations, along with its use of "Signing Statements" and citing of a "Unitary Executive" theory, constitute repeated assaults to and weakening of the rule of law and of the integrity and viability of the Constitution itself; and

WHEREAS Article 6 of the Constitution of the United States requires that "The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democrats call upon the Washington State Congressional Delegation to fulfill their sworn Constitutional duties as their highest priority by taking whatever action is necessary to

- (1) Fully Restoring Federal Congressional oversight of the Executive Branch;
- (2) Require the Executive Branch to fully comply with and enforce the laws of the land as enacted by Congress;
- (3) Retain for Congress its constitutionally conferred war powers, revoking authorization for war where undertaken under false pretense; and
- (4) Where public officials commit or have committed substantive violations of the Constitution, Federal laws or Treaties, swiftly and vigorously pursue and support impeachment, criminal prosecutions, civil actions, and/or all other remedies available to enforce accountability of our highest government officials.

Submitted by the 36th District Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 4/29/2008)

The Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDED A PASS" at its May 31, 2008 meeting in Ellensburg.

44 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 14,
45 2008 meeting in Spokane.