

1 **Resolution Calling for a Congressional Investigation**
2 **of Torture and Other Violations**
3 **of the Geneva Conventions Under the Administration**
4 **of Former President George W. Bush**

5
6 **WHEREAS** publicly-acknowledged behaviors such as water-boarding and other
7 practices of persons deemed 'enemy combatants' by representatives of the US
8 government took place during the administration of President George W. Bush and
9 Vice President Richard Cheney;

10
11 **WHEREAS**, the behaviors appear to be 'torture' of other human beings, as defined by
12 the Geneva Conventions governing the conduct of war between nations, to which the
13 United States is signatory;

14
15 **WHEREAS**, the alleged torture was sanctioned by advisors to the then President and
16 Vice President by re-naming as "enhanced interrogation techniques" practices
17 historically known as torture, and by pretending that the persons to be tortured were
18 not prisoners of war but 'enemy combatants' not protected by the Geneva Conventions;
19 and

20
21 **WHEREAS** those advisors included David Addington, legal counsel and chief of staff
22 to then Vice President Richard Cheney; and John Yoo, Deputy Assistant Attorney
23 General, Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Department of Justice; and Jay Bybee, Assistant
24 Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Department of Justice, and now a
25 federal judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit;

26
27 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Washington State Democrats urge the
28 Washington Democratic Congressional delegation to take appropriate action to cause
29 the U.S. Congress to convene a special investigation into the advice, policies and
30 behavior of members of the Bush Administration which contravened the Geneva
31 Conventions and the norms of civilized societies; and

32
33 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the findings of the investigation be
34 made public and, where appropriate, that the U.S. Justice Department take legal action
35 to hold personally responsible those individuals who were responsible for authorizing
36 the atrocities which have become publicly acknowledged, and all other atrocities; and

37
38 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be
39 transmitted to relevant officials along with a request for response within thirty days,
40 listing the actions they are willing to take to support this resolution, or a list of the
41 reasons explaining why it cannot be supported.

42

43

44 Submitted by the Pierce County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for
45 consideration at its June 26 convention in Vancouver. (Date Submitted 4/20/2010)

46

47 Recommended Pass with amendments by the Subcommittee on Human Rights, Civil
48 Rights and Human Services, Immigration, Indian Tribes and Sovereignty, and Law and
49 Justice. (Date Considered 5/2/2010)

50

51 Recommended Pass with amendments by the State Convention Platform Committee.
52 (Date Considered 6/5/2010)

53

54 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 26,
55 2010 meeting in Vancouver.