

1 **A Resolution in Support of HB 2594**
2 **Help Citizens Vote**
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4 **WHEREAS** the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is one of the cornerstones of our democracy;
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6 **WHEREAS** Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act provides for bilingual assistance so
7 that all Americans, including those with limited English proficiency, may participate in
8 the electoral process;
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10 **WHEREAS** Section 203 will sunset in 2007 if it is not re-authorized by the United States
11 Congress;
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13 **WHEREAS** Section 203 currently requires four counties in Washington State to provide
14 bilingual assistance and bilingual voting materials, including Chinese in King County
15 and Spanish in Adams, Franklin and Yakima Counties;
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17 **WHEREAS** Washington House Bill 2594 will codify Section 203 of the Voting Rights
18 Acts to insure equal access for limited English proficient voters in Washington State;
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20 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Washington State Democratic Central
21 Committee fully support House Bill 2594 and the rights of all eligible citizens,
22 regardless of their English proficiency, to fully participate in our democracy.
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24 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this statement be sent to all
25 Washington State legislators, the Governor, the Washington Secretary of State and the
26 Washington State Association of County Auditors for action.
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29 Submitted to the WSDCC for consideration at its January 28, 2006 meeting in South
30 Seattle - Kent by the WSDCC Asian Pacific Islander Caucus (Date Submitted
31 1/27/2006)
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33 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee amended this resolution and recommended a
34 "Pass" at its January 28, 2006 meeting in South Seattle - Kent.
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36 Passed by the WSDCC at its January 28, 2006 meeting in South Seattle - Kent.