

1 **Resolution to Support Changing Place Names**
2 **to Native American Place Names**

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4 **WHEREAS** place names were often assigned to achieve self-aggrandizement of
5 Spanish, English and settlers from the early nation of the United States of America;

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7 **WHEREAS** these place names were assigned as part of a campaign to eradicate the
8 people and their traditions who had lived in these places since time immemorial;

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10 **WHEREAS** Mount Rainier was named by George Vancouver after a British naval
11 officer who never visited Washington State;

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13 **WHEREAS** George Vancouver never consulted with the neighboring American Indian
14 tribes regarding the naming of the mountain;

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16 **WHEREAS** the neighboring tribes such as the Puyallup, Muckleshoot, Duwamish,
17 Chehalis, Nisqually, Yakama, and Tulalip did not call the mountain Mt. Rainier;

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19 **WHEREAS** Puyallup tribal member Robert Satiacum has launched a regional effort to
20 restore the name of Mt. Rainier to Ti'Swaq in honor of a local tribe that lived by the
21 mountain;

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23 **WHEREAS** many Native American people and tribes support this effort; and

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25 **WHEREAS** the Pierce County Democrats have worked harmoniously and respectfully
26 with the regional Native American tribes and residents;

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28 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democrats, call on
29 each and every elected representative to support the revision of legal place names to
30 those of the indigenous communities who resided here before those of European
31 heritage arrived, and also

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33 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democrats,
34 support the necessary expenditures of public and private funds to make new road and
35 highway signs as well as other public signage concerning the name of Mt Rainier to
36 Ti'Swaq, and also

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38 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democrats
39 support the renaming of other spiritual and traditional places throughout Washington
40 state so as to conform to the place names give those localities according to the people
41 who resided in each specific place prior to the statehood of Washington State, and also
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43 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democrats,
44 call on the Washington State Board on Geographic Names and the U.S. Board on
45 Geographic Names to make the aforementioned restorations.
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48 Submitted by the Pierce County to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee
49 for consideration at its October 9, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake. (Date Submitted
50 9/20/2010)

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52 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee “AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND
53 RECOMMENDED A PASS” at its October 8, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake.

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55 The WSDCC “PASSED” this resolution at its October 9, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake.