

## A Resolution Concerning “Advisory Votes” 14 and 15

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3 **WHEREAS** Attorney General Bob Ferguson's office has determined that two actions  
4 recently taken by the Washington State Legislature as part of the enactment of the 2016  
5 supplemental budget must each be placed on the ballot in the form of nonbinding  
6 plebiscites as required by Tim Eyman's Initiative 960;

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8 **WHEREAS** these measures will appear on the ballot as “Advisory Votes” 14 and 15;

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10 **WHEREAS** according to Attorney General Bob Ferguson, Advisory Vote 14 was  
11 triggered by House Bill 2768 (which extended the insurance premium tax to some  
12 insurance for stand-alone family dental plans) and Advisory Vote 15 was triggered by  
13 Second Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2778 (which imposed certain limitations on the  
14 retail sales and use tax exemptions for clean alternative-fuel vehicles);

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16 **WHEREAS** HB 2768 was prime sponsored by Republican State Representative Joe  
17 Schmick and passed the House by a vote of ninety-one to zero and passed the Senate by  
18 a vote of forty-four to four;

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20 **WHEREAS** 2ESSB 2778 was prime sponsored by Democratic State Representative Jake  
21 Fey and passed the House by a vote of sixty-six to twenty-nine and passed the Senate  
22 by a vote of twenty-eight to fifteen;

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24 **WHEREAS** voters are asked to either vote “Maintained” or “Repealed” on the  
25 aforementioned bills;

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27 **WHEREAS** the provision of Tim Eyman's Initiative 960 that dictates how “advisory  
28 votes” are to appear on the ballot requires the use of loaded language and misleading  
29 ten-year cost projections in order to create leading questions which are intended to  
30 suggest their own answers;

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32 **WHEREAS** these kinds of questions are found in what are commonly known as push  
33 polls, do not belong on our ballots, and are a waste of public funds;

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35 **WHEREAS** the Secretary of State's office is forbidden by Initiative 960 from providing  
36 additional and valuable context concerning the “advisory votes” to voters in the  
37 statewide voter's pamphlet; and

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39 **WHEREAS** voting “Maintained” on these “advisory votes” is the best way to both  
40 protest their existence and deny Tim Eyman ammunition for further attacks on the plan  
41 of government that our founders gave us, which provides for a representative  
42 democracy with executive, legislative, and judicial branches;

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44 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central  
45 Committee take a position supporting a "Maintained" vote on Advisory Votes 14 and  
46 15 on the November 2016 general election ballot.

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49 Submitted by the King County Democrats. (Date Submitted 8/23/2016)

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51 The Resolutions Committee included this resolution in the "DO PASS" slate at its  
52 September 17, 2016 meeting.

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54 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its September 17, 2016 meeting in Yakima.