

1 **Resolution on DSHS and OSPI Placing Million Dollar**
2 **Unfunded Mandate on**
3 **Shoreline School District Budget**
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the Shoreline School district has a nation-wide reputation for excellence
6 in special education; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the State of Washington's paramount duty is to educate all the children
9 living within its borders, and the State of Washington has defined basic education to
10 include basic education for children with developmental disabilities; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the Shoreline school district cannot meet new state and federal
13 standards without the financial support to pay for them, including No Child Left
14 Behind and WASL, while at the same time continue to offer the rich educational
15 program that the community and parents expect; and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the Shoreline School District receives payment from the state for special
18 education students up to 12.7% of total enrollment; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, the Shoreline School District averaged 1298 special education students
21 in the 2004-2005 school year which results in some 65 students enrolled above the
22 state level of support; and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, the State of Washington's DSHS and OSPI have placed an additional 28
25 special education students in a private institution with capacity for placing an
26 additional 8 special education students in the same facility, the total education cost
27 of which will be over one million dollars of local levy money for the unfunded
28 mandate; and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, the Shoreline School District has a long history of successful
31 partnership with the Fircrest School to provide educational services for the students
32 who reside at the school, and when the students from Fircrest School attended
33 Shoreline Schools, the state pays the extra money for their care; and
34

35 **WHEREAS**, there is no shortage of facilities available for developmentally disabled
36 children as Fircrest School is licensed for some 284 beds, only 100 of which are
37 funded by the state, resulting in a surplus of some 184 beds and living quarters
38 available to care for developmentally disabled individuals within the Shoreline
39 School District;
40
41
42
43

44 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central
45 Committee:

- 46
- 47 1. Castigate DSHS and OSPI for shifting the education costs for their clients off
48 the state budget and onto the local school district as an unfunded mandate,
49 and for ignoring the Interagency Agreement which called for "OSPI-DSHS
50 Special Program Agreement" or "Program Agreement" which would specify
51 services provided to children, coordinating duties and allocating resources
52 between the program and OSPI and/or LEAs (local school districts), and,
53
 - 54 2. Commend the Shoreline School Board and Superintendent for joining with
55 the other 11 school districts and 25 other friends of the court in court action to
56 fill the gap of more than \$100 million between what the state pays for special-
57 education services each year, and what those services cost districts, and
58
 - 59 3. Recommend that the Shoreline School District do not use local levy dollars,
60 which are designed to fund enrichment programs such as art and music, to
61 fill the funding shortage for the special education programs, and
62
 - 63 4. Recommend that the Shoreline School District continue to pursue safety net
64 funds and other DSHS funding such as that which would be available were
65 these students to reside in the vacant cottages at Fircrest.
66

67
68 Submitted to the WSDCC for consideration at its September 17, 2005 meeting in
69 Everett by the Washington State Progressive Caucus of the Democratic Central
70 Committee (9/16/2005).

71
72 Referred to the WSDCC with a recommendation of "Pass" by the Resolutions
73 Committee at its September 17, 2005 meeting in Everett.

74
75 Passed by the WSDCC at its September 17, 2005 meeting in Everett.