

A Resolution Calling for a Prompt and Responsible Disengagement of the United States from Iraq

WHEREAS, the March 2003 invasion of Iraq by the armed forces of the United States violated the Charter of the United Nations, and Article VI of the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the orders and contracts of the Coalition Provisional Authority, still in force in Iraq in October 2005, violate the Iraq Constitution, the 1906 Hague Regulations, the Geneva Conventions and the U.S. Army's Code of Land Warfare; and

WHEREAS, as of November 1, 2005, 37 citizens of Washington State including four from Seattle (2,028 from across the US) have been killed, 476 from Washington State (14, 641 from across the US) have been wounded, and many more continue to be in jeopardy while serving in the armed forces of the United States in Iraq [globalsecurity.org and legacy.com]; and

WHEREAS, the financial cost of the war to the citizens of Washington is estimated to total, as of September, 2005, \$452 million, or approximately \$900 per person for every man, woman, and child living in the city, monies that could otherwise fund, for example, 780 additional Seattle public school teachers for a period of 10 years, or 4100 additional housing units, or 22,000 4- year scholarships at public universities [costofwar.com]; and

WHEREAS, we face ever increasing personal security risks at home and abroad as a result of this war and occupation; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Washington will pay the additional costs of the physical, emotional, mental, relationship, and social impairments that war frequently bequeaths to veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that costs of the war and occupation to the Iraqi people are immeasurably greater; and

WHEREAS, we remember the prior US actions in Iraq include the first Gulf war in which, in violation of international treaties on the conduct of war, the US deliberately crippled Iraq infrastructure (e.g. water treatment, sanitation, electrical plants), harshening life since throughout Iraq. In addition, in the following twelve years (1991-2003), the US insisted , through the UN, on maintaining strict economic sanctions there; by 1999, UNICEF reported, economic sanctions had contributed to half a million Iraqi children's deaths [4].

42 Additional reports of malnutrition [6], a savaged health care system [7], and lost
43 education for a generation of children in Iraq from those pre-2003 actions are readily
44 available;

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46 **WHEREAS**, the environmental destruction visited on Iraq by Gulf War I and the
47 current Iraq War and occupation include un-inventoried radiological weapons debris
48 and unexploded US cluster bombs [8]; and

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50 **WHEREAS**, the citizens of the United States have a moral and legal obligation to mend
51 the material and other damage it has done there;

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53 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

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55 **Section 1.** We affirm that the sovereignty of Iraq, both political and economic,
56 belongs to the people of Iraq and that sovereignty should be returned promptly and
57 in full to them. To this end, the United States executive branch and Congress
58 should:

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60 a) declare immediately that it is the intent of the US to withdraw all US and other
61 coalition armed forces and foreign private security forces from Iraq, and abandon
62 all efforts to establish permanent US military bases in Iraq [9];

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64 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the President of
65 the United States, to the Washington State delegation in Congress and to other national
66 leaders, all of whom continue to make foreign policy with regard to Iraq and to fund an
67 occupation that is ultimately detrimental to Iraqis, the United States, and the citizens
68 the state of Washington. The Washington State Democratic Party encourages local
69 parties to lobby for adoption of this resolution by city councils throughout the State of
70 Washington.

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73 Submitted to the WSDCC for consideration at its November 12, 2005 meeting in Ocean
74 Shores by the 1st Legislative District Democrats (11/7/2005)

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76 Recommendation of "Refer Back to Originator" by the WSDCC Resolutions Committee
77 at its November 12, 2005 meeting in Ocean Shores.

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79 Brought to the floor, amended and passed by the WSDCC at its November 12, 2005
80 meeting in Ocean Shores.