

1 **Resolution Demanding an Inquiry of Iraq War Abuses**
2 **(In support of the intent of Minority Leader Nancy**
3 **Pelosi's Resolution 11/3/05)**

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5 **WHEREAS** the war in Iraq has resulted in the loss of over 2,000 American lives and
6 more than 15,000 wounded soldiers, and has cost the American people over \$190 billion
7 dollars;

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9 **WHEREAS** the basis for going to war was Iraq's alleged possession of weapons of mass
10 destruction (WMD) and the President made a series of misleading statements regarding
11 threats posed by Iraq, but no weapons of mass destruction have been found;

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13 **WHEREAS** the Republican Leadership and Committee Chairmen have repeatedly
14 denied requests by Democratic Members to complete an investigation of pre-war
15 intelligence on Iraq and have ignored the question of whether that intelligence was
16 manipulated for political purposes;

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18 **WHEREAS** the Vice President's Chief of Staff Lewis Libby has been indicted on five
19 counts of perjury, obstruction of justice, and making false statements in connection with
20 the disclosure of the identity of a CIA operative, and that disclosure was part of a
21 pattern of Administration efforts to discredit critics of the Iraq war;

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23 **WHEREAS** four separate requests to hold hearings on the disclosure of the CIA
24 operative were denied in the Government Reform Committee, and Resolutions of
25 Inquiry were rejected in the Intelligence, Judiciary, Armed Services, and International
26 Relations Committees;

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28 **WHEREAS** the American people have spent \$20.9 billion dollars to rebuild Iraq with
29 much of the money squandered on no-bid contracts for Halliburton and other favored
30 contractors;

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32 **WHEREAS** Halliburton received a sole-source contract worth \$7 billion to implement
33 the restoration of Iraq's oil infrastructure, and a senior Army Corps of Engineers official
34 wrote that the sole-source contract was "coordinated with the Vice President's office";

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36 **WHEREAS** despite these revelations, on July 22, 2004 the Republican-controlled
37 Government Reform Committee voted to reject a subpoena by Democratic Members
38 appropriately seeking information on communications of the Vice President's office on
39 awarding contracts to Halliburton;

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41 **WHEREAS** prisoner abuses at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, Guantanamo , and
42 Afghanistan have seriously damaged the reputation of the United States, and increased
43 the danger to U.S. personnel serving in Iraq and abroad;

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45 **WHEREAS** the Republican Leadership and Committee Chairmen have denied requests
46 for hearings, defeated resolutions of inquiry for information, and failed to aggressively
47 pursue serious allegations, including how far up the chain of command the
48 responsibility lies for the treatment of detainees;

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50 **WHEREAS** the oversight of decisions and actions of other branches of government is an
51 established and fundamental responsibility of Congress;

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53 **WHEREAS** the Republican Leadership and the Chairmen of the committees of
54 jurisdiction have failed to undertake meaningful, substantive investigations of any of
55 the abuses pertaining to the Iraq war, including the manipulation of pre-war
56 intelligence, the public release of a covert operative's name, the role of the Vice
57 President in Iraqi reconstruction, and the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal;

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59 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The Washington State Democrats call upon
60 the Republican Leadership and Chairmen of the committees of jurisdiction to comply
61 with their oversight responsibilities, demand they conduct a thorough investigation of
62 abuses relating to the Iraq War, and condemn their refusal to conduct oversight of an
63 Executive Branch controlled by the same party, which is in contradiction to the
64 established rules of standing committees and Congressional precedent;

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66 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats wholeheartedly
67 support all efforts by our congressional delegation toward bringing about such an
68 investigation, and urge them to vigorously use all means at their disposal to see that
69 these matters receive the fair and unbiased investigation they deserve;

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71 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the WSDCC are directed to convey this resolution to
72 the Washington State Congressional delegation, to send a press release about it to all
73 news media in the state and to place a copy of the resolution on the public web site.

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76 Submitted to the WSDCC for consideration at its November 12, 2005 meeting in Ocean
77 Shores by the Whatcom County Democrats (11/10/2005)

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79 Referred to the WSDCC with a recommendation of "Pass" by the Resolutions
80 Committee at its November 12, 2005 meeting in Ocean Shores.

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82 Passed unanimously by the WSDCC at its November 12, 2005 meeting in Ocean Shores.