

Resolution Proposing the Establishment of a Washington State Executive Health Care Task Force

WHEREAS, the U.S. health care system is in crisis. It has become intolerably expensive, yet fails to provide equitable access to care or achieve a better level of health. In 2002, health care consumed 15 percent of our Gross National Product, but more than 40 million people lacked health insurance at some point during the year. More than 18,000 people in the US die each year because they are uninsured and can't get proper health care; and

WHEREAS, the platform of the 11th District Democrats and the Washington State Democrats states "Establishment of a nationwide, publicly funded, accountable, nonprofit single-payer universal health care plan..."; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA7) introduced House Bill 1200 on March 9th, 2005 in Congress to create a National Health Care system, and has introduced this same bill every congressional session since 1993; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Bob Hasegawa (D-11) introduced House Bill 2067 on February 16th, 2005 in Olympia to establish a legislative/executive task force on health care access, delivery, and financing; and

WHEREAS, a similar task force in California (the Lewin Commission) resulted in a practical law, SB 840, recently passed by the California State Senate, which has been estimated to be able to save \$20 billion a year in health care administrative costs if enacted; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee call upon the Washington State Governor to establish a task force on health care access by executive authority immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee call upon Congress to hold public hearings on HR 1200; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee invite local party organizations to join a letter writing campaign to the Washington State Governor and members of Congress to bring these two bills and other bills like them to the front of the legislative and executive agenda.

Submitted to the WSDCC for consideration at its November 12, 2005 meeting in Ocean Shores by the 11th Legislative District Democrats (Date Submitted 11/20/2005)

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

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

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51 Sources

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