

## Corporate Political Accountability

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3 **WHEREAS**, Corporations make significant political contributions and expenditures to  
4 support and oppose political candidates, political parties and political causes; and

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6 **WHEREAS**, Corporations acting through their boards and executives are obligated to  
7 conduct business for the best interests of their owners, whose interests are not  
8 necessarily in the public's best interest; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, the public has no means of addressing the political activities of  
11 corporations and the corporate boards and executives that use corporation funds to  
12 support and oppose political candidates, and other actions that effect the best interests  
13 of the public; and

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15 **WHEREAS**, Corporations should be accountable for their public actions affecting the  
16 larger community; and

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18 **WHEREAS**, Political candidates, parties and causes should not accept corporate  
19 contributions and expenditures as they are in the business of supporting, regulating and  
20 governing the common good and the rights of the public;

### 21 22 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

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- 24 1. The Washington State legislature shall enact laws to revoke corporate  
25 personhood.
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27 2. The Washington State Legislature shall enact laws to make it unlawful for a  
28 for-profit corporation to, directly or indirectly, make any political  
29 contribution or expenditure for political activities or for an officer or director  
30 of a corporation to consent to any political contribution or expenditure by a  
31 corporation; and
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33 3. It shall be made unlawful for any candidate, political party, committee, or  
34 other person knowingly to accept or receive any political contribution or  
35 expenditure from a for-profit corporation or its directors.
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38 Submitted to the WSDCC for consideration at its June, 2006 Convention in Yakima  
39 (Date Submitted 05/03/2006 by Whatcom County Democrats)

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41 The Washington State Democratic Party at its State Convention on June 3, 2006 in  
42 Yakima referred this resolution to the WSDCC Resolutions Committee for review at its  
43 September 9 - 10, 2006 meeting in Ellensburg.

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45 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee amended this resolution and recommended a  
46 "Pass" at its September 10, 2006 meeting in Ellensburg. The resolution will be  
47 forwarded to the WSDCC at its next meeting on September 29 - 30, 2006 in Tacoma.

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49 The WSDCC passed this resolution as amended at its September 30, 2006 meeting in  
50 Tacoma.