

Washington Health Security Trust

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3 **WHEREAS**, 600,000 residents of Washington State lack health insurance coverage;

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5 **WHEREAS**, employers currently have no incentive to not join in the “race to the
6 bottom” by shifting their health care costs to employees and, in some cases, to the
7 taxpayers via the Basic Healthcare Plan;

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9 **WHEREAS**, our current system of employer-provided health care coverage ties
10 employees to their existing jobs for the sake of the coverage and exposes them to the
11 risk of losing coverage when changing plans due to “pre-existing conditions”;

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13 **WHEREAS**, the current system of competing health insurance policies imposes high
14 costs upon health care providers as they sort among the many requirements and forms
15 to obtain reimbursement for providing services;

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17 **WHEREAS**, a unified financing system at the state level can eliminate the
18 fragmentation of the current system and can avoid excessive costs and confusion from
19 adding still more programs to our current overburdened, inefficient health care
20 financing mechanisms;

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22 **WHEREAS**, the Washington Health Security Trust Proposal, demonstrates that

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- 24 ○ a tightly drafted state law can cover the complex issue of universal health care
25 coverage;
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 - 27 ○ state action, negotiation, and waivers can resolve complicating relationships with
28 federal laws and regulations, such as ERISA and Taft-Hartley trusts without
29 federal legislation; however, enabling federal legislation such as the Health
30 Partnership Act (S2772) would be helpful;
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 - 32 ○ existing health care dollars can be managed within a dedicated health security
33 trust fund to cover medically necessary, high quality health care for all residents
34 without additional revenues; and
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36 **WHEREAS**, the Washington Health Security Trust provides affordable, comprehensive
37 coverage of high quality health care for all residents of the state, using a unified and
38 cohesive financing system which would use fewer health care dollars than we spend
39 now;

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41 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats endorses the
42 Washington State Health Security Trust bills now before the legislature;

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44 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats pledge to
45 advocate and promote passage of Washington State Health Security Trust bills in the
46 2007-08 Washington State Legislature and to support and encourage our own district
47 legislators to enact said legislation, and

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49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central
50 Committee will forward copies of this resolution to all members of the Washington
51 State Legislature and the Governor.

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54 Submitted by the Grays Harbor Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central
55 Committee for consideration at its January 26, 2008 meeting in the Vancouver. (Date
56 Submitted 11/2/2007)

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58 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND
59 RECOMMENDED A PASS" at its January 26, 2008 meeting in Vancouver.

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61 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its January 26, 2008 meeting in Vancouver.