

End Profiling Based on Race, Religion and National Origin

WHEREAS profiling occurs when law enforcement officials rely on race, ethnicity, national origin or religion in selecting which individuals to subject to investigative action;

WHEREAS the practice of this profiling violates our nation's basic constitutional commitment to equality before the law;

WHEREAS the practice of this profiling includes the targeting of Arabs, Muslims and South Asians, especially following the attacks of September 11, 2001;

WHEREAS there has not been a single documented incident in which this profiling by law enforcement has resulted in the capture or detention of any suspect related to terrorism;

WHEREAS Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI) and House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers (D-MI) recently introduced the End Racial Profiling Act in both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate;

WHEREAS the End Racial Profiling Act (ERPA) builds on guidance issued by the Department of Justice in June 2003, banning federal law enforcement officials from engaging in profiling, and applies this prohibition to state and local law enforcement; and

WHEREAS ERPA expands the definition of racial profiling to include actions based on grounds of religion and national origin;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we urge all members of the Washington State Congressional delegation to support the End Racial Profiling Act and see that it is enacted into law by the U.S. Congress; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that current practices of such profiling, including the current practice of targeting Arabs, Muslims and South Asians, be eliminated.

Submitted by the King County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 4/21/2008)

Submitted by the 46th District Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 5/1/2008)

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45 Recommended pass by the Subcommittee on Human and Civil Rights, Immigration,
46 Indian Tribes and Treaties and Law and Justice at their May 11 meeting in Seattle.

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48 The Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDED
49 A PASS" at its June 13, 2008 meeting in Spokane.

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51 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 14,
52 2008 meeting in Spokane.