

1 **Resolution Requesting that Our Representatives and**
2 **Candidates for Congress Take a Public Stand Against**
3 **Cutting Social Security and Medicare**

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5 **WHEREAS** Social Security and Medicare are among the most significant and politically
6 popular legislative accomplishments of the Democratic Party;

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8 **WHEREAS** both programs are currently being threatened with significant cuts by
9 National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, which is stacked with vocal
10 public opponents of both programs and is completely unaccountable to voters;

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12 **WHEREAS** long-term unemployment and the concomitant spending down of
13 retirement savings combined with widespread age discrimination has been particularly
14 devastating for those over 55;

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16 **WHEREAS** Representative Raul Grijalva is currently circulating a letter in Congress in
17 defense of Social Security;

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19 **WHEREAS** coalitions of union members, health care advocates, retirees and those close
20 to retirement age are circulating pledges to defend Social Security and Medicare;

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22 **WHEREAS** it would be very wise politically to give Strong Democrats (59% of whom
23 are women and 73% over 50, in the state of Washington) the assurance that Democrats
24 will not allow such serious threats to their economic security to stand;

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26 **WHEREAS** the widespread popularity of Social Security and Medicare makes
27 defending those programs a powerful political weapon against Republicans (as
28 Representative Reichert realized when he came out against raising the Social Security
29 retirement age); and

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31 **WHEREAS** no member of our congressional delegation has signed Grijalva's letter yet,
32 and only Representative Jim McDermott and candidate Suzan del Bene have agreed to
33 sign the Social Security defense pledge;

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35 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats request all of
36 our representatives and candidates to sign Representative Grijalva's letter;

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38 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats
39 request all of our representatives and candidates to sign the Social Security Works-WA
40 pledge; and

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42 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats

43 request all of our representatives and candidates to sign a pledge to defend Medicare.

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46 Submitted by the 11th LD Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central
47 Committee for consideration at its October 9, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake. (Date
48 Submitted 9/21/2010)

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50 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "RECOMMENDED A PASS" on this resolution at
51 its October 8, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake.

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53 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its October 9, 2010 meeting in Moses Lake.