

End the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and Bring Our Troops and Tax Dollars Home

WHEREAS the financial resources available for use by governments at the local, county, state and federal levels in the United States are limited;

WHEREAS the U.S. Congress has appropriated over one trillion dollars for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001, most of it borrowed against our national debt;

WHEREAS according to the National Priorities Project, the taxpayers of Washington State are to date collectively paying or have become indebted for over \$28.6 billion in total cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001;

WHEREAS, taxpayers in State of Washington will pay \$2.4 billion for proposed Afghanistan war spending for FY2011;

WHEREAS the Washington State government is facing a \$550 million shortfall in this year's state budget, and nearly \$5 billion shortfall in the 2011-13 budget, while at the same time federal budget cuts are expected to reduce funding in Washington State for college Pell grants, low income housing, senior and youth centers, job training, Puget Sound clean-up and salmon recovery, flood control, transportation, and veteran housing vouchers; and

WHEREAS over 4,400 U.S. troops have been killed in Iraq, over 1,140 U.S. troops have been killed in Afghanistan, and over 39,000 U.S. troops have been wounded in both conflicts according to the Department of Defense, and hundreds of thousands of civilians have been killed in these conflicts and the ongoing warfare poses great physical danger to the people of the nations of Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democrats encourage public discussion and dialogue about the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to our community; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call on U.S. Senator Patty Murray and U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, and all Washington State federal legislators to oppose further funding of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and urge them to take leadership in the Congress to bring our troops safely home and redirect our federal tax dollars to the pressing educational, employment, health, housing, nutritional, infrastructure, energy, and environmental needs of our state and country.

42 Submitted by the 40th Legislative District Democrats to the Washington State
43 Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its April 30, 2011 meeting in
44 Wenatchee. (Date Submitted 3/20/2011)

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46 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND
47 RECOMMENDED A PASS" at its April 30, 2011 meeting in Wenatchee.

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49 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its April 30, 2011 meeting in Wenatchee.