

Resolution in Support of the Washington State Ferry Worker Unions

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4 **WHEREAS** the Inland Boatmen’s Union of the Pacific, the International Organization of
5 Masters, Mates, and Pilots, the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, the Puget
6 Sound Metal Trades, and the Office of Professional Employees International Union
7 Local 8 represent over 1600 workers employed by the Washington State Ferry System;

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9 **WHEREAS** these unions were the first to step up and defer their negotiated wage
10 increases for the current biennium to bridge the state budget gap resulting in an 18.3
11 million dollar savings;

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13 **WHEREAS** the Washington State Ferry Unions have reopened their contracts to
14 negotiate further cost saving ideas for the 2011-2013 biennium and there is a tentative
15 agreement in place;

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17 **WHEREAS** 2011 democratic members in the legislature have once again targeted the
18 ferry worker unions by drafting and passing legislation that guts existing contractual
19 agreements between labor and the employer as well as an outright assault on the
20 collective bargaining process as a whole; and

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22 **WHEREAS** this legislation directly opposes our party platform which supports the
23 rights of workers to organize and collectively bargain;

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25 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats go on record
26 supporting the maritime trade unions bargaining rights;

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28 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats go
29 on record opposing Washington State’s legislative process as a means to undermine
30 labor’s right to bargain fairly;

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32 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats urge
33 the Washington State Legislature to find a permanent funding source for the ferry
34 system;

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36 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats
37 recognize the sacrifices made by ferry union workers; and

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39 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats
40 remind our state House and Senate Democratic members that the Washington State
41 Democratic Central Committee, per our platform, opposes this type of legislation in this
42 session or in any future session.

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45 Submitted by the 34th Legislative District Democrats to the Washington State
46 Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its April 30, 2011 meeting in
47 Wenatchee. (Date Submitted 4/22/2011)

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49 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "RECOMMENDED A PASS" at its April 30, 2011
50 meeting in Wenatchee.

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