

1 **Resolution to Legalize Industrial Hemp as an**
2 **Agricultural Commodity**
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4 **WHEREAS** industrial hemp historically was cultivated and processed in this State and
5 useful in multiple products including rope, fabric, paper, oil, and as a rotation crop;
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7 **WHEREAS** finished products containing hemp fibers and oil from the seed can include
8 paint, solvents, plastics, dietary supplements, cosmetics, biofuel and other useful
9 products;
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11 **WHEREAS** the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)
12 passed a resolution in 2003 urging the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Drug
13 Enforcement Administration and the White House Office of National Drug Control
14 Policy to collaboratively develop and adopt an official definition of industrial hemp,
15 and urged Congress to statutorily distinguish between industrial hemp and marijuana
16 and to adopt policies which would allow U.S. Farmers to grow industrial hemp; and
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18 **WHEREAS** the Democratic Party urges the President, Attorney General and Congress
19 to direct the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to differentiate
20 between industrial hemp, low-THC oilseed and fiber varieties of Cannabis, and
21 marijuana, and adopt a policy to allow American Farmers to once again grow industrial
22 hemp, thereby legalizing production and its use in American manufacturing efforts,
23 without requiring DEA licenses;
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25 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats vigorously
26 encourages the Washington State Congressional Delegation to actively support and
27 advance language in the 2012 Farm Bill to include industrial hemp as a legal crop; and
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29 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Congressional
30 Delegation is urged to actively support and promote the immediate addition of
31 language allowing designation of industrial hemp in the United States Department of
32 Agriculture Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) as an eligible feedstock.
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35 Submitted by the Spokane County Democrats to the Washington State Democratic
36 Central Committee for consideration at its June 2, 2012 Convention. (Date Submitted
37 5/3/2012)

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39 Recommended 'PASS' by the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Economic Justice and
40 Development, Energy and the Environment, and Transportation at its May 12th meeting
41 in Ellensburg.

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43 Recommended 'PASS' by the Platform Committee at its June 1st meeting in Seattle.

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45 'PASSED' by the Washington State Democratic Convention at its June 2nd meeting in

46 Seattle.