

Resolution for Investment in Public Education through Energy Self-Sufficiency

WHEREAS many public school facilities in the United States are antiquated or in physical disrepair and or causing health issues for students and staff as well as promoting decreases in learning efficiency and productivity;

WHEREAS those public school buildings are extremely energy inefficient costing school districts nation-wide enormous sums to maintain;

WHEREAS by initiating measures such as energy audits schools can benefit by appropriate retrofitting or upgrading including the installation of new lighting, heating and cooling systems, and where applicable renewable energy systems;

WHEREAS these measures would result in substantial energy savings per school which may improve instruction budgets which may facilitate the hiring of additional teachers, staff, reduce class sizes, and support programs for students;

WHEREAS schools could transfer excess energy back to the Grid to credit a funding pool created specifically for generating opportunities to help other schools become energy efficient;

WHEREAS these measures would result in creating construction jobs in every community where there are public schools; and

WHEREAS possible sources for funding this program could be derived from unused federal stimulus dollars, bonds, and grants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democrats vigorously urge the Washington State congressional delegation to enact federal legislation and provide funding for investment in public education through energy self-sufficiency.

Submitted with the signatures of forty delegates to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its June 2, 2012 Convention. (Date Submitted 5/22/2012)

Recommended 'PASS WITH AMENDMENTS' by the Platform Committee at its June 2nd meeting in Seattle.

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

43 'PASSED' by the Washington State Democratic Convention at its June 2nd meeting in
44 Seattle.