

Protect Collective Bargaining Rights

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3 **WHEREAS** there have been organized and extremely well-funded efforts across our
4 country to limit collective bargaining rights;

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6 **WHEREAS** a strong economy is based upon jobs that provide safe working conditions,
7 a fair, and living wage, and health and retirement benefits;

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9 **WHEREAS** quality jobs as defined above are obtained and ensured by workers' rights
10 to organize unions for collective bargaining;

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12 **WHEREAS** income inequality continues to grow in our country, with the top 1% of
13 wage earners received about 10% of our nations income gains in the 1960's and over
14 60% of the gains in the 2000s;

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16 **WHEREAS** the percentage of unionized workers track very closely with the share of
17 our nation's income going to the middle class - those in the middle three-fifths of
18 income earners;

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20 **WHEREAS** membership in private sector unions has dropped from around 30% in the
21 late 1960s to less than 7% today; and

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23 **WHEREAS** public sector unionization has remained stable for decades at around 36% -
24 but is now under significant threat from conservative political opposition;

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26 **WHEREAS** the Washington State Democratic Platform calls for strong protections of
27 collective bargaining rights in both the private and public sector;

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29 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we call on the Washington State Legislature to
30 oppose all efforts to limit collective bargaining rights and to oppose all efforts to limit
31 the formation of unions or limit membership in existing unions.
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34 Submitted by the Kitsap County Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central
35 Committee for consideration at its September 22, 2012 meeting in Yakima. (Date
36 Submitted 9/12/2012)

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38 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND
39 RECOMMENDED A PASS" at its September 22, 2012 meeting in Yakima.

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41 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its September 22, 2012 meeting in Yakima.