

Resolution Against the Use of the Chained CPI for Calculating Cost of Living Increases for Social Security and Other Programs

1 **WHEREAS** a vote for the Chained CPI is a vote to cut Social Security benefits. Being an annual
2 reduction to the current COLA increase, already inadequate because seniors spend more on
3 health care than CPI estimates, and thus would jeopardize the secure retirement of over 56
4 million Americans; and

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6 **WHEREAS** not only these retirees, but also over 8 million disabled and surviving Supplemental
7 Security Income recipients, over 2 million military retirees, over 3 million VA beneficiaries and
8 over 2 million federal retirees will be affected ; and

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10 **WHEREAS** the impact will be greatest on those who draw benefits at earlier ages, typically
11 veterans and the disabled, and be particularly devastating to those who live the longest, most
12 often women, because they have outlived their other sources of income, depleted their assets,
13 with their benefits their only lifeline; and

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15 **WHEREAS** Social Security is a worker-funded trust fund and therefore does not contribute to
16 the deficit, will be solvent for years, and any future shortfalls can be remedied by methods more
17 fair to working Americans; and

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19 **WHEREAS** chained CPI and other austerity policies would worsen our jobs crisis by taking
20 money out of the economy each and every month; and

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22 **WHEREAS** two-thirds of respondents over 50 regardless of party affiliation say they're less
23 likely to support any candidate who backs chained CPI, Democratic support for this policy will
24 result in severe negative repercussions for our party in the crucial 2014 and 2016 elections; then

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26 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee
27 urges our Democratic representatives to refuse to pass a budget that includes cuts to Social
28 Security and other benefits by implementing chained CPI; and

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30 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central
31 Committee send copies of this resolution to the members of our Democratic Congressional
32 Delegation.

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34 Submitted by the Stevens County Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee for
35 consideration at its April 27, 2013 meeting in Chelan. (Date Submitted April 15, 2013)

36
37 Submitted by the Clark County Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee for
38 consideration at its April 27, 2013 meeting in Chelan. (Date Submitted April 10, 2013)

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40 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "CONSOLODATED THIS RESOLUTION WITH RESOLUTION
41 #614" at its April 27, 2013 meeting in Chelan.

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43 The WSDCC Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDED A
44 PASS" at its April 27, 2013 meeting in Chelan.

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46 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its April 27, 2013 meeting in Chelan.