

A Resolution Calling for Withdrawal from Trans-Pacific Partnership Negotiations

WHEREAS the trade agreement known as Trans-Pacific Partnership is being negotiated in secret, and opponents in the labor and environmental communities argue that it would give new enforceable monopolistic rights and privileges to multi-national corporations, and establish limits on sovereign governments' ability to regulate corporations' actions, including but not limited to the areas of intellectual and copyright provisions, prices, labor practices, environmental impacts, disclosure requirements, and safety issues;

WHEREAS according to public documents from the US Trade Representative, this agreement would allow multi-national corporations to sue governments through international tribunals, staffed by private-sector attorneys, which could force governments to pay compensation to corporations and investors if the challenged policies are deemed to hinder investors' future profits, even if those corporations are not abiding by the countries' laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS past trade agreements have had a detrimental impact on jobs and wages, the environment, and fair equitable trade, this agreement goes beyond what has been done before, and should not be pursued;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Washington State Democratic Central Committee calls for withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations, and calls for a new, more transparent paradigm for trade negotiations; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee forward copies of this resolution to President Obama, the Office of U.S. Trade Representatives, United States Congressional Representatives, Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, and Governor Jay Inslee.

Submitted by the 30th Legislative District Democrats to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its September 21, 2013 meeting in Ocean Shores.

(Date Submitted 9/18/2013)

(This resolution is developed from Resolution 588)

The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its September 21, 2013 meeting in Ocean Shores.