

Resolution Regarding Washington State Revenue

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3 **WHEREAS** the State of Washington must fulfill its constitutional duty to fully fund
4 basic education by 2018, and the state Supreme Court has ruled that such funding must
5 be accomplished by means of dependable and regular tax sources;

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7 **WHEREAS** the citizens of the State of Washington have approved Initiative 1351,
8 requiring lower class sizes, which will require new state spending;

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10 **WHEREAS** the state has significantly reduced its contribution to rising higher
11 education costs, making post-secondary education less accessible to its people;

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13 **WHEREAS** state spending for social services has not kept pace with need, to the
14 detriment of citizens who most need help;

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16 **WHEREAS** state support for mandated local government functions has declined, and
17 county governments can raise only limited funds locally, resulting in further reduction
18 of government services;

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20 **WHEREAS** state spending has not kept pace in many other areas, including salaries,
21 wages, and benefits of employees providing public services;

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23 **WHEREAS** our state has the most regressive tax structure in the nation, amplifying the
24 growth of income inequality; and

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26 **WHEREAS** many individuals and businesses have attained great financial success and
27 have accumulated great wealth, having benefitted from services and infrastructure
28 provided by the State of Washington, and are in a position to contribute toward the
29 common good in proportion to their means;

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31 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats urge Governor
32 Jay Inslee and our legislators to develop and support new, dependable revenue
33 measures sufficient to fully fund basic education; to reduce class sizes; to ensure
34 affordable public higher education; and to provide for other needs of the state's citizens,
35 local governments, and employees; and

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37 **THEREFORE FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats urge
38 these elected officials to adopt new revenue measures that are progressive in nature,
39 such as those specified in the State Party Platform.
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- 42 Submitted by the Jefferson County Democrats to the WSDCC. (Date Submitted
43 11/21/2014)
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45 Submitted by the 24th LD Democrats to the WSDCC. (Date Submitted 1/11/2015)
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47 Recommended Pass by the Resolutions Committee at their January 24, 2015 Meeting in
48 Olympia.
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50 Passed by the WSDCC at their January 24, 2015 Meeting in Olympia.