

1 **Resolution in Support of Governor Inslee’s**
2 **Carbon Pollution Accountability Act**

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4 **WHEREAS** the release of carbon dioxide and other pollutants is causing devastating
5 and perhaps irreversible harm in our state and around the world, including increasing
6 global temperatures; declining snowpack that reduces water supplies; more frequent
7 and more destructive forest fires; acidification of our waters threatening shellfish
8 populations; and a dangerous increase in asthma, particularly among children in low-
9 income communities;

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11 **WHEREAS** industries that emit huge amounts of carbon pollution face no financial
12 responsibility for the damages they inflict on people and the environment;

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14 **WHEREAS** establishing a price on carbon will encourage investment in less carbon-
15 intensive alternative energies like solar and wind;

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17 **WHEREAS** building a robust alternative energy sector will create living wage jobs for
18 thousands of Washingtonians;

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20 **WHEREAS** in 2008 the Legislature of the State of Washington enacted legislation to
21 limit and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases consistent with the emission reductions
22 established in RCW 70.235.020;

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24 **WHEREAS**, at the request of Governor Jay Inslee, the Carbon Pollution Accountability
25 Act (CPAA) was introduced in the State Legislature in order to achieve the carbon
26 emission reduction goals established in 2008 under RCW 70.235.020;

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28 **WHEREAS** the CPAA would create a market-based program that limits carbon
29 pollution and requires major polluters to pay for their emissions;

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31 **WHEREAS** the CPAA would decrease pollution limits gradually over time, allowing
32 industry time to transition to cleaner technologies without undue loss of jobs and
33 profitability;

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35 **WHEREAS** the CPAA would generate approximately \$1 billion dollars annually, for
36 reinvestment by the State toward expanded public transit, education and our social
37 safety net; and

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39 **WHEREAS** the CPAA contains provisions to protect lower-income families from the
40 financial impacts of transitioning to a clean-energy economy;

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42 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we whole-heartedly support our Governor's
43 proposed program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, particularly that embodied in
44 the Carbon Pollution Accountability Act, and urge our State Legislature to adopt it
45 forthwith; and

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47 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we send copies of this resolution to
48 Governor Jay Inslee and all Washington State legislators, and urge members of this
49 organization to write or call their state legislators urging passage of the Carbon
50 Pollution Accountability Act.

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53 Submitted by the 31st LD Democrats to the WSDCC. (Date Submitted 3/25/2015)

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55 The Resolutions Committee recommended that this resolution be "PASSED" at its April
56 18, 2015 meeting in Pasco.

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58 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its April 18, 2015 meeting in Pasco.