

1 **Resolution against Implementing the Social Security**
2 **Administration's "Vision 2025"**

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4 **WHEREAS** the Social Security Administration (SSA) published its "Vision 2025" on
5 March 10, 2014 advocating making online self-service deliver its primary service
6 channel, eliminating direct service to clients except in very limited circumstances,
7 farming out much of its workload to outside agencies and eliminating traditional field
8 offices;

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10 **WHEREAS** outside organizations would be allowed to charge for services which
11 workers have already paid for with their FICA taxes;

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13 **WHEREAS** SSA field offices served a record 43 million visitors in 2013, and call volume
14 to the 800 number created unprecedented delays in contacting an agent;

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16 **WHEREAS**, given that SSA field office employees get 17 weeks of training and only
17 become fully proficient in 3 to 4 years, it is patently unrealistic to expect anyone without
18 such training to be able to navigate the system in just a few minutes online;

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20 **WHEREAS** requiring online enrollment essentially strips people for whom English is
21 not a first language, people who do not have and do not know how to use computers,
22 and people with disabilities such as early onset Alzheimer's of benefits they have
23 worked for all their lives; and

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25 **WHEREAS** "Vision 2025" would force most workers, their families and their survivors
26 to fend for themselves;

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28 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats, while not
29 opposed to expanded online access for those who wish to use it, urge our federal
30 lawmakers to decisively reject "Vision 2025" and instead to mandate increased funding
31 for SSA field workers and traditional full service field offices; and

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33 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be sent to
34 our U.S. Senators and Congressmembers.

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37 Submitted by the 34th LD Democrats to the WSDCC. (Date Submitted 6/12/2014)

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39 Submitted by the King County Democrats to the WSDCC. (Date Submitted 9/5/2014)

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41 Recommended Pass by the Resolutions Committee at their September 13, 2014 Meeting
42 in Ferndale.

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44 Passed by the WSDCC at their September 13, 2014 Meeting in Ferndale.