

1 **Resolution Recognizing American Muslims & Affirming Their**
2 **Constitutional Rights**

3
4 **WHEREAS** religious freedom is guaranteed to all Americans by the Constitution and
5 laws of the United States;

6
7 **WHEREAS** a diversity of religious beliefs, traditions, and heritages brings strength to
8 our country;

9
10 **WHEREAS** American Muslims believe in the right and freedom of all U.S. citizens to
11 live and worship in their own way;

12
13 **WHEREAS** American Muslims share the same American values and freedoms that we
14 all cherish, and American Muslims uphold the Constitution and laws of the United
15 States;

16
17 **WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Dept. of Defense, over 10,000 American Muslims
18 serve in our nation’s armed forces, and many, including U.S. Army Specialist Kareem
19 Khan, U.S. Army Major James Ahearn, U.S. Army Specialist Rasheed Sahib, and U.S.
20 Army Captain Humayun Khan, are among the thousands of U.S. military personnel
21 who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country while serving in combat missions
22 over the past 15 years;

23
24 **WHEREAS** our nation benefits from the estimated 50,000 American Muslim doctors
25 nationwide who provide compassionate care, humanitarian services and save American
26 lives;

27
28 **WHEREAS** American Muslims give back to our local communities as volunteers in fire
29 departments, PTAs, food banks and many other organizations;

30
31 **WHEREAS** never before in our nation’s history have anti-Muslim hate crimes been as
32 high in number or severity as in 2015, when an average at least one daily report of a
33 hate crime targeting an American Muslim or someone perceived as Muslim was
34 received by civil rights organizations; and

35
36 **WHEREAS**, in times like these, fair-minded leaders across our nation have a duty to
37 publicly and vocally affirm American values of religious freedom;

38
39 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party reaffirms
40 its long-standing support for religious freedom;

41

42 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic
43 Party stands strongly for the principle that American Muslims deserve the same
44 opportunities as all Americans - to build better futures for their families and children;
45 and

46
47 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic
48 Party condemns any legislation or statements that run contrary to this principle.
49

50
51 Submitted by the King County Convention, as originated by the Council on American-
52 Islamic Relations.

53
54 The Platform Committee recommended that this resolution be passed at their June 17,
55 2016 meeting.

56
57 The 2016 Washington State Democratic Convention passed this resolution on June 18,
58 2016.

59