A Work Group to Review Electoral System Models within Washington State

WHEREAS the public's confidence in our elected political institutions is extremely low today, causing many to question whether their concerns are being heard or addressed by our elected representatives;

WHEREAS the public also lacks confidence in the electoral methods used to elect those representatives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2016 Washington State Democratic Party Convention calls upon the Washington State Democratic Central Committee to convene a work group within one year, incorporating members drawn from diverse ranks of the Democratic Party, with a broad mission to review various electoral system models, including Instant Runoff Voting (IRV), single-member versus multi-member districts, and proportional representation; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this work group will prepare a report on possible electoral structures and processes in Washington State that will increase public participation and confidence in elected governments in our state; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this report will be brought to the membership of the Democratic Party of Washington within two years of the convening of the work group.

Submitted by the Thurston County Democrats.

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

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