

1 **Resolution In Support of Passing Initiative 735 to Overturn**
2 **Citizens United and Post-Election Follow Up**

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4 **WHEREAS**, the US Supreme Court in its Citizens United v. FEC and Buckley v. Valeo
5 decisions construed the spending of money by individuals, corporations and special
6 interests in elections as protected free speech under the First Amendment of the
7 Constitution of the United States;

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9 **WHEREAS**, previous US Supreme Court decisions have eroded the authority of
10 government to regulate campaign contributions and expenditures;

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12 **WHEREAS**, the prompt disclosure of all political contributions and expenditures in a
13 manner accessible to voters prior to elections is in the best interest of holding free and
14 fair elections;

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16 **WHEREAS**, Initiative 735 seeks to make Washington the 17th state calling for a US
17 Constitutional amendment to overturn US Supreme Court decisions that threaten to
18 destroy our democracy; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, the Washington State Democratic Central Committee has endorsed I-735
21 and its provisions identified as follows:

- 22 1. The rights listed and acknowledged in the Constitution of the United States are
23 the rights of individual human beings only.
24 2. The judiciary shall not construe the spending of money to be free speech under
25 The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.
26 3. Federal, State and Local governments shall be fully empowered to regulate
27 political contributions and expenditures to ensure that no person or artificial
28 legal entity gains undue influence over government and the political process.
29 4. All political contributions and expenditures shall be disclosed promptly and in a
30 manner accessible to voters prior to elections;

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32 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Democratic Party urge its elected
33 officials to endorse I-735 and to pass endorsement resolutions in their jurisdictions, and
34 encourage all voters to vote for I-735; and

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36 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Democratic Party at all levels
37 commits to holding Washington State Democratic members of Congress accountable to
38 abide by the wishes of their constituents and to urge Democrats represented by
39 Republican members of Congress to hold their members of Congress accountable
40 following the November 2016 election.
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43 Submitted by the Mason County Democrats.

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45 The Platform Committee recommended that this resolution be passed at their June 17,
46 2016 meeting.

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48 The 2016 Washington State Democratic Convention passed this resolution on June 18,
49 2016.

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