

1                   **Resolution Banning the Use of Neonicotinoids**  
2                   **to Protect our Agricultural Pollinators**

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4   **WHEREAS** agricultural production is critical to human survival; and,

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6   **WHEREAS** agricultural pollinators are critical to the production of over 80% of our  
7 food sources; and,

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9   **WHEREAS** scientific evidence has emerged that our pollinators are being negatively  
10 affected and impacted by neonicotinoids, systemic chemicals absorbed in plants,  
11 making the plants toxic to all types of pollinators; and,

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13   **WHEREAS** the neonicotinoid danger has even been recognized by the U.S. Congress, in  
14 the introduction of the 2013 Save America’s Pollinators Act, which would “suspend the  
15 use of neonicotinoid pesticides until a full review of scientific evidence and a field study  
16 demonstrates no harmful impacts to pollinators;

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18   **WHEREAS** pollinators are crucial and critical to human survival and our agriculture;

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20   **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that with scientific evidence mounting that  
21 neonicotinoids, “systemic chemicals that are absorbed by plants, transferred through  
22 the plant’s vascular system, making the plant itself toxic to insects” and pollinators;  
23 and, “neonicotinoids can be present in pollen and nectar, making these floral resources  
24 toxic to the pollinators that feed on them,” that Washington State ban all neonicotinoids  
25 until testing by the appropriate, unbiased Federal and State agencies show that these  
26 chemicals are safe for our environment, human health and welfare, and our agricultural  
27 pollinators;

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29   **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democrats,  
30 call for legislative action at the state and national level immediately banning the use of  
31 neonicotinoid pesticides until such time as they are proven to be safe and not harmful  
32 to pollinators.

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35 Submitted by the Skamania County Democrats.

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37 The Platform Committee recommended that this resolution be passed at their June 17,  
38 2016 meeting.

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40 The 2016 Washington State Democratic Convention passed this resolution on June 18,  
41 2016.

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