

National Vote-by-Mail Elections

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3 **WHEREAS** the experience in Washington State proves that Vote-by-Mail is a
4 successful, fraud-free, and voter-friendly model for election administration;
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6 **WHEREAS** Vote-by-Mail is voter friendly and convenient by eliminating the need for
7 voters to go to a polling place and stand in long lines for their turn to vote, eliminating
8 voter ID laws designed to make it harder to vote, by accommodating shift workers as
9 well as disabled and senior voters, and by giving the voter several weeks to make a
10 reasoned decision about their votes in their own home;
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12 **WHEREAS** Vote-by-Mail provides a paper trail of optical scan ballots that can be
13 recounted by machine or by hand to prove that every vote was counted accurately;
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15 **WHEREAS** every signature of every voter is checked on Vote-by-Mail ballots by
16 election officials to safeguard the system against fraud;
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18 **WHEREAS** Vote-by-Mail ballots are not forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service if
19 undeliverable, but returned to election clerks to keep voter rolls accurate and constantly
20 updated;
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22 **WHEREAS** Vote-by-Mail ballots utilize 1st class postage which adds significant funds
23 to the U.S. Postal Service operation each election cycle, thereby supporting it financially
24 while in turn creating much needed operating capital that supports the jobs of its
25 employees;
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27 **WHEREAS** centralized supervision of ballot processing in county clerks' offices
28 maintains uniformity and strict compliance with laws throughout the state; and
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30 **WHEREAS** Vote-by-Mail elections not only increase participation, are convenient,
31 accurate and fraud-free, but they also cost taxpayers one-third less than polling place
32 elections;
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34 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central
35 Committee adopts and forwards this resolution to the Democratic National Committee
36 and asks that the National Democratic Party distribute educational materials in support
37 of Vote by-Mail to all its affiliated State Democratic Party organizations; and
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39 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Washington State Democratic
40 Central Committee requests the Democratic National Committee and National
41 Democratic Party to encourage all their affiliated State Democratic Party organizations
42 to pursue statewide and local legislative and election reform to allow a further test of

43 Vote-by-Mail elections in each State, and ultimately universal Vote-by-Mail elections in
44 the United States, thereby eliminating voter suppression, intimidation and unfair
45 National elections.

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48 Submitted by the Island County Democrats. (Date Submitted 7/25/2016)

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50 The Resolutions Committee amended this resolution and included it in the "DO PASS"
51 slate at its September 17, 2016 meeting.

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53 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution as amended at its September 17, 2016 meeting in
54 Yakima.