

1 **Resolution to Increase Department of Health funding for Nurse**
2 **Family Partnership**

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4 **WHEREAS** Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) and First Steps - Maternity Support
5 Services (MSS) are evidence-based interventions to support at-risk families;

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7 **WHEREAS** stressed families tend to increase long-term, multi-generational private and
8 social costs, including compromised health, risk of incarceration, inferior education, and
9 diminished contributions to economy and society;

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11 **WHEREAS** NFP is documented to reduce child abuse and neglect (48 percent
12 reduction), child arrests (59 percent reduction), criminal convictions of mothers (79
13 percent reduction), and reduce child behavioral and intellectual problems (67 percent
14 reduction);

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16 **WHEREAS** family stress and poverty concentrate in the rural areas of Washington
17 State;

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19 **WHEREAS** of the sixteen counties supporting NFP, only Yakima, Spokane, and Benton-
20 Franklin are outside the I-5 corridor; and

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22 **WHEREAS** county adoption of NFP is expensive and requires commitment of
23 organizational capacity;

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25 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central
26 Committee recommends to the Legislature to increase Department of Health funding
27 for Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) and First Steps - Maternity Support Services (MSS);
28 and

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30 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic
31 Central Committee recommends to the Legislature to fund the Department of Health to
32 provide administrative support to create multi-county districts for counties not
33 currently offering Nurse Family Partnership.

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36 Submitted by the Agriculture and Rural Caucus on 9/9/2017.

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38 The Resolutions Committee reviewed and amended this resolution and recommended
39 that it be passed.

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41 The Washington State Democratic Central Committee approved this resolution on
42 9/10/17.