

1           **Resolution Supporting HB 1374: Repeal of the Firearms**  
2           **Preemption code RCW 9.41.290**

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4           **WHEREAS** RCW 9.41.290 states “The state of Washington hereby fully occupies  
5           and preempts the entire field of firearms regulation within the boundaries of the  
6           state, including the registration, licensing, possession, purchase, sale,  
7           acquisition, transfer, discharge, and transportation of firearms, or any other  
8           element relating to firearms or parts thereof, including ammunition and reloader  
9           components. Cities, towns, and counties or other municipalities may enact only  
10          those laws and ordinances relating to firearms that are specifically authorized by  
11          state law, as in RCW [9.41.300](#), and are consistent with this chapter. Such local  
12          ordinances shall have the same penalty as provided for by state law. Local laws  
13          and ordinances that are inconsistent with, more restrictive than, or exceed the  
14          requirements of state law shall not be enacted and are preempted and repealed,  
15          regardless of the nature of the code, charter, or home rule status of such city,  
16          town, county, or municipality”;

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18          **WHEREAS** the 5 states in the union (Connecticut, Hawai'i, Massachusetts, New  
19          Jersey, New York) that do not have these state pre-emption laws are among the six  
20          safest states in the union in regards to gun violence<sup>[1]</sup>;

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22          **WHEREAS** the pre-emption gun laws that are present in the other 45 states were  
23          supported by the NRA, ALEC, and other conservative local gun rights groups<sup>[2]</sup>;

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25          **WHEREAS** in this biennium, Washington has a Democratic Governor and a Democratic  
26          State Legislature;

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28          **WHEREAS** in 2018, the Washington State Democrats expressed their commitment to  
29          reducing gun violence by passing 2018SCRES – 153, to urge the State Legislature to  
30          establish Reasonable Firearms Controls (the resolution originating in Snohomish  
31          County and passed at the 2018 Snohomish County Convention);

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33          **WHEREAS** 2019-20 HB 1374, co-sponsored by 17 Democrats in the State House of  
34          Representatives, seeks to repeal RCW 9.41.290<sup>[4]</sup>, thereby allowing Washington State  
35          cities, towns, [counties](#), and municipalities to pass their own gun laws, which may be  
36          more restrictive than the current laws allow

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38          **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democratic Central  
39          Committee support HB 1374, repeal of Firearms Preemption code RCW 9.41.290;

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41          **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democratic  
42          Central Committee call on the Washington State Legislature to support HB 1374,  
43          repeal of Firearms Preemption code RCW 9.41.290;

45 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that** a copy of this resolution will be sent  
46 to all Democratic Washington State legislators.

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50 Submitted by the 44th Legislative District to the WSDCC for consideration at its  
51 September 27, 2019 meeting in Yakima. (Date Submitted 8/13/2019)

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53 The Resolutions Committee reviewed and amended this resolution and recommended  
54 it be passed.