

WSDCC—940—LAB—SUPPORTING NEW REFINERY SAFETY REGULATIONS
**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW REFINERY WORKER
SAFETY REGULATIONS**

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WHEREAS explosions and fires resulting from major releases of toxic and flammable substances claimed the lives of thirteen workers in two of Washington’s petroleum refineries in 1998 and 2010; and

WHEREAS major releases of hazardous substances at the state’s five petroleum refineries not only kill and injure refinery workers, but can also harm residents and businesses in nearby communities and damage the natural environment; and

WHEREAS the United States Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board’s investigation of the 2010 incident found that the incident could have been avoided and recommended substantial changes to Washington State’s Process Safety Management regulations administered by the state’s Department of Labor and Industries and further recommended that the State provide for a well-funded, well-trained staff for enforcement of these regulations; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries has acknowledged that its current regulations for petrochemical refineries are outdated and do not reflect current industry practices and has begun a process to promulgate new regulations, *Process Safety Requirements for Petroleum Refineries*.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Washington State Democratic Central Committee support revised practical, meaningful and legally enforceable Process Safety Management regulations for petroleum refineries that include:

- Modern engineering and management practices;
- Strong worker collaboration rights;
- Documentation of all safety decisions;
- Procedures to learn from near misses; and
- Clear timelines to implement corrective actions,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we, the Washington State Democratic Central Committee call on the Governor and State Legislature to provide for all necessary monies and resources to ensure effective and timely compliance and enforcement of the Process Safety Management regulations for petroleum refineries.

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