Resolution Supporting Affirmative Action, Protecting I-1000 via Referendum 88

WHEREAS I-200 (the initiative that launched the career of Tim Eyman in 1998) has restricted educational opportunity and economic mobility among Washington's most diverse communities for the last two decades; and

WHEREAS the WSDCC believes guaranteeing every resident of Washington State equal opportunity and access to public education, public employment, and public contracting without discrimination based on their race, sex, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, sexual orientation, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or honorably discharged veteran or military status; and

WHEREAS this can be accomplished by restoring affirmative action into state law without the use of quotas or preferential treatment; defining the meaning of preferential treatment and its exceptions; and establishing a governor's commission on diversity, equity, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Legislature passed the Washington State Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Act (I-1000) during the normal legislative session of 2019, with the overwhelming support of Democratic House and Senate members; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Democratic Party and all Democrats in Washington have a moral obligation to stand up in defense of our friends, family, and neighbors subjected to discriminatory rhetoric, agendas, and action whenever possible;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Washington voters must be given clear voting instructions on this critical issue to avoid any confusion;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Washington State Democratic Central Committee, urge all Washington voters to vote "Approved" on Referendum 88 on their November 2019 ballots; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be circulated to all Democratic Washington State Legislators and Members of Congress.

Submitted by Chairwoman Tina Podlodowski and Vice Chairman David Green to the WSDCC for consideration at its September 28th, 2019, meeting in Yakima (Date Submitted 7/26/2019)

This Resolution was **PASSED** by the WSDCC on February 1st, 2020