

Resolution to Support Educators

WHEREAS the Washington State Constitution declares in Article IX, Section 1 that it is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders, and

WHEREAS in *McCleary v. State of Washington*, the Washington State Supreme Court determined that the state had violated its constitutional obligation by consistently failing to provide enough resources to fund a basic education for all children residing within its borders, and

WHEREAS the court found that "ample" means "considerably more than just adequate" through "dependable and regular tax sources", and

WHEREAS the court found that the state's reliance on local property taxes to support basic education instead of broader statewide taxes "fails to provide the ample funding" required by the Constitution, and

WHEREAS public education is a necessary foundation for our constitutional democracy and is essential to the economic vitality of our state's future,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Snohomish County Democrats, declare our support for public educators and classified school employees in our district and our state in their efforts to lower class size, restore their cost of living pay increases, and protect the fundamental right to collective bargaining, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we shall present a copy of this resolution to our governor and state legislators and ask them to do their part to provide ample funding to the Washington State Public Education system, including ample funding for our students and ample compensation for public educators, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we find that this matter is of an urgent nature and direct that the resolution be approved at the same meeting where the resolution was first proposed, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we shall present a copy of this resolution to the Washington State Democratic Party for their consideration, as appropriate to their rules.

As adopted by the 44th Legislative District Democrats on May 14th, 2015 and forward to the Snohomish County Democrats for consideration on May 23, 2015.