



WASHINGTON STATE DEMOCRATS

Endorsing Initiative 1000 Petition To The Legislature

WHEREAS the United States' greatest strength is our Diversity, an asset which sets our country apart from any other nation in the world;

WHEREAS according to Washington State's Office of Financial Management (OFM), as of 2017, Washington 7.3 million population was 50% women and over 30% people of color;

WHEREAS nearly 20 years ago on November 3, 1998, Washington State passed Initiative 200, sponsored by right-wing conservatives Tim Eyman and John Carlson, which banned the use of race and gender in Affirmative Action programs in public education, public contracting and public employment;

WHEREAS since 1998, numerous studies have documented Washington's severe disparities in education, employment and public contracting, particularly for women and people of color;

WHEREAS Washington's Office of Women and Minority Business Enterprises (OMWBE) has reported that since the passage of I-200, state spending with certified minority and woman-owned businesses has dropped from 10% to 3%, causing a devastating \$3.8 billion dollar 20 year loss to small, minority and women-owned businesses;

WHEREAS the people of Washington State have consistently shown overwhelming support for voting to repeal I-200 and restore Affirmative Action back in Washington State law to prevent discrimination against women, honorably discharged veterans, the disabled and minorities in public education, public contracting and public employment; and

WHEREAS Initiative 1000 would create a Governor's Commission on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; redefine Affirmative Action without quotas and preferential treatment; and expand the military veterans covered under Affirmative Action beyond Vietnam era and disabled veterans to now include all honorably discharged veterans;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee (WSDCC) hereby endorse the Initiative 1000 which concerns remedying discrimination and affirmative action;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the WSDCC urge all legislative and county district democratic organizations to endorse Initiative 1000 at their upcoming fall 2018 meetings; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the WSDCC urges all 2018 legislative and congressional candidates endorsed by the Democratic Party to endorse Initiative 1000 if it goes to ballot in 2019.

Submitted by the 30th Legislative District Democrats.

The Resolutions Committee recommended that this resolution be passed as amended at their September 15, 2018 meeting. The Washington State Democratic Central Committee passed this resolution on September 16, 2018.