

## **Resolution to Recognize the Vietnamese-American Heritage and Freedom Flag**

Passed by the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democrats at the regular meeting of January 13, 2010

The following resolution, submitted by Marcee Stone on behalf of Linh Thai, will be considered at our January meeting:

Whereas, the end of the Vietnam conflict produced an exodus of over two million Vietnamese who sought a new life; and

Whereas, many of these refugees settled in King County, and an estimated forty-eight thousand Vietnamese-Americans and residents of Vietnamese descent live in and have a long history of contributing to the business, economic development, and culture of our county and city; and

Whereas, Vietnamese-Americans own and operate approximately 3,000 businesses in Washington that have gross sales and receipts of Four hundred forty six million dollars annually, pay fifty-six million dollars in taxes per year and employ many Washingtonians; and

Whereas, Vietnamese-Americans have excelled in engineering, government, architecture, education, medicine, acting, music, sculpture, and writing; and

Whereas, the City of Seattle's quality of life is greatly enhanced by the Vietnamese-American community in our city; and

Whereas, the vast majority of Vietnamese-Americans embrace the Vietnamese-American Heritage and Freedom flag of the former Republic of Vietnam as a symbol of their heritage and promotion of freedom and democracy in their country of origin; and

Whereas the Vietnamese-American Heritage and Freedom flag serves as a symbol of recognition and appreciation of more than fifty-eight thousands of American service men and women who fought and gave their lives in defense of freedom and democracy;

Now therefore be it resolved that the 34th District Democratic organization urge the Seattle City Council to: A. Recognize the Vietnamese-American Heritage and Freedom flag of the Vietnamese-American community and support the display of this flag at community events and at appropriate locations in Seattle; and B. Encourage other cities and counties to also recognize the Vietnamese-American Heritage and Freedom flag as the symbol of the Vietnamese-American community.