

**Resolution to Support Funding of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program**  
proposed by Toni Lysen Before the membership, 14 January 2004 meeting

To State Representative J. Joseph McDermott, State Representative Eileen Cody, State Senator Eric Poulsen

WHEREAS, manufacturing has provided our citizens with living wage jobs, benefits and a higher standard of living; and

WHEREAS, small manufacturers are the backbone of manufacturing employment in the United States; and

WHEREAS, U.S. manufacturing has faced serious competition from overseas manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, the United States has lost nearly 2.7 million manufacturing jobs over the past three years; and

WHEREAS, the loss of manufacturing jobs in the United States has become a critical concern to our citizens and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership supports our small manufacturers' competitive advantages: innovation and productivity; and

WHEREAS, our Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the Washington Manufacturing Services, has assisted over 800 manufacturers in Washington to become more efficient and competitive; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 Washington Manufacturing Services projects produced an annual cost savings to Washington state manufacturers of an average of \$8.5 million and an increase of product sales of \$45 million; and

WHEREAS, the impact of these projects has created \$2.7 million in state revenues and \$5 million in federal revenues; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal cut to the Manufacturing Extension Partnership from \$109 million to \$39 million - nearly two-thirds of its current funding -- will cripple the one federal program specifically designed to help manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, this budget reduction will leave Manufacturing Extension Partnerships struggling to serve thousands of small manufacturers who rely on their assistance each year, NOW,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that members of the 34th District Democrats urge the King County Democratic Central Committee and the state legislature to support full federal funding of the manufacturing extension partnership program in the fiscal year 2004 appropriation as described in Senator Velma Veloria's resolution.

