

Felons Rights Resolution

Passed by the Membership, February 8, 2006

Resolution on the Restoration of Order in Restricting Voter Rights For Incarcerated Felons

WHEREAS Washington State's system for determining the eligibility of ex-felons is too complicated to ensure that the intent of the law is carried out, and

WHEREAS Washington State's system for allowing ex-felons to reacquire their voting rights is the most restrictive in the nation, and

WHEREAS restoring the right to vote to ex-felons is one of the most important things we can do to encourage a return to society and its obligations, and

WHEREAS in the Washington State Senate SB and its companion House Bill have been introduced and when passed will simplify the record keeping in the State and County offices responsible for maintaining accurate voter files, and

WHEREAS these bills would make the restoration of voting rights automatic once a felon is released from imprisonment, now then

BE IT RESOLVED that the 34th District Democratic Organization supports the passage of SB6651 or HB2873, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 34th District Democratic Organization urges State Representatives Eileen Cody and Joe McDermott and State Senator Erik Poulsen to join in the sponsorship and passage of this legislation.

It is the intent of the passage of this Resolution be forwarded to the State Committee, our members of the Legislature, the Governor and the Secretary of State.