

FAIRSHARE HEALTH CARE RESOLUTION

(Sponsored by the West Seattle Democratic Women for
the March 4, 2006 Democratic Caucuses)

WHEREAS, Wal-Mart is bilking the state of Washington by not making health insurance affordable to its employees in our state and forcing their employees onto state health care rolls; and

WHEREAS, the low wages paid Wal-Mart's 17,000 employees in Washington state cost our state taxpayers \$12.1 million in increased health care expenditures in 2004; and

WHEREAS, an average of 3,180 Wal-Mart employees were on state/federal Medicaid health care and 456 were on Washington state's Basic Health Plan in 2004; and

WHEREAS, 46 percent of the children of Wal-Mart's workers either have no health insurance or they are covered by Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, a minimum standard for health care needs to be established, similar to the minimum wage employers must pay, such that companies with at least 5,000 employees are required to contribute an amount equal to nine percent of their payroll to health benefits; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gregoire has made passage of Fair Share legislation to accomplish such health care provision a priority for the 2007 legislature,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the _____
(insert District-Precinct number or name) supports "Fair Share" legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge our state representatives and senator to join in the sponsorship and passage of this legislation. A copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the House Health Care and Senate Health and Long Term Care committees, our members of the legislature, the governor and the Secretary of State.