

1                   **Resolution Affirming Freedoms of all Americans**

2   **WHEREAS** religious freedom is guaranteed to all Americans by the Constitution and laws  
3 of the United States;

4   **WHEREAS** a diversity of religious beliefs, traditions, and heritages bring strength to our  
5 country;

6   **WHEREAS** never before in our nation’s history have anti-Muslim hate crimes been as high  
7 in number or in severity as in 2015. Throughout 2015 on average at least one daily report  
8 of hate crimes targeting an American Muslim or someone perceived as Muslim was  
9 received by American Muslim civil rights organizations;

10 **WHEREAS** American Muslims believe in the right and freedom of all U.S. citizens to live and  
11 worship in their own way;

12 **WHEREAS** American Muslims uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States ;

13 **WHEREAS** according to the U.S. Dept. of Defense, over 10,000 American Muslims serve in  
14 our nation’s armed forces, and many have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country; and

15 **WHEREAS** numerous American Muslims including U.S. Army Specialist Kareem Khan, U.S.  
16 Army Major James Ahearn, U.S. Army Specialist Rasheed Sahib, and U.S. Army Captain  
17 Humayun Khan, are among the thousands of U.S. military personnel who have made the  
18 ultimate sacrifice for our country while serving in combat missions over the past 15 years;

19 **WHEREAS** our nation benefits from the estimated 50,000 American Muslim medical  
20 doctors nationwide who provide compassionate care, humanitarian services and save  
21 American lives;

22 **WHEREAS** American Muslims give back to our local communities as volunteers in fire  
23 departments, PTAs, food banks and many other organizations;

24 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party reaffirms its  
25 longstanding support for religious freedom;

26 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party  
27 opposes legislation or hate and fear based public statements that attack any religious group  
28 in Washington State or in the United States

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30 Submitted 3/26/2016 by Neil Norman to the Benton County Democratic Central  
31 Committee for consideration at its May 1, 2016 Convention.