

1 **Resolution Affirming Freedoms of all Americans**
2 **Including American Muslims**

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

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

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

9 **WHEREAS** American Muslims share the same American values and freedoms that we all
10 cherish, knowing that we are all in this together;

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 **WHEREAS** in times like these, fair-minded leaders across our nation have a duty to publicly
28 and vocally affirm American values of religious freedom, and publicly and vocally tell
29 stories of the lives and contributions of American Muslims they have encountered;

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

1 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party
2 stands strongly for the ideal that American Muslims deserve the same opportunities as all
3 Americans – to build better futures for their families and children; and

4 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party
5 condemns any legislation or statements that run contrary to this ideal.

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7 *Submitted to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its*
8 *May 1, 2016 convention (Date Submitted 3/26/2016)*