

## **Resolution Condemning Hate Groups and Depriving Them of Democratic Platform**

**WHEREAS**, a hate group is defined by the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) as “an organization that – based on its official statements or principles, the statements of its leaders, or its activities – has beliefs or practices that attack or malign an entire class of people, typically for their immutable characteristics;” and

**WHEREAS**, The New York Times cited Eric Kaufmann, a professor at Birkbeck University of London on the intersection of ethnicity and politics, giving this definition of white nationalism: “the belief that national identity should be built around white ethnicity, and [...] maintain both a demographic majority and dominance of the nation’s culture and public life;” and

**WHEREAS**, the Inland Northwest has historically been a hotbed of systemic racism and anti-indigenous colonialism, which has fueled white-identity extremism, separatism, and terroristic activity, requiring sustained community resistance as well as combat and dispersal by federal law enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, groups such as Identity Evropa, Patriot Prayer, the Proud Boys, and others engage in campaigns of propaganda and harassment in support of white supremacy, white nationalism, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny, ableism, and ethnic and religious exclusion, including anti-Semitism and Islamophobia; and

**WHEREAS**, other groups, such as Northwest Grassroots and Respect Washington, offer normalizing platforms for these harmful movements and their attempts to undermine American values by directing US and Washington State policy toward oppression through force of law; and

**WHEREAS**, hate groups, and those that seek to normalize them, often use the presence of elected officials to legitimize their gatherings and by extension their propaganda; and

**WHEREAS**, the propaganda espoused by hate groups is antithetical to the Democratic values of diversity, inclusion, and a safe society for all;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 1st Legislative District Democrats will honor local history of popular and political resistance to systemic oppression, xenophobia, and racism, and condemn white supremacy, white nationalism, and fascistic speech and violence in all its forms; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 1st Legislative District Democrats will not offer a platform to any organization that espouses white nationalism, white supremacy, or other exclusionary philosophies that are counter to the American value that we are “e pluribus unum,” one people out of many places and cultures; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 1st Legislative District Democrats will ask our elected officials and community leaders to avoid involvement with hate groups as defined by the Southern Poverty Law Center; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the WA State Democrats Central Committee for Consideration at their next meeting; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the 1st Legislative District Democrats will share a copy of this resolution on the 1st Legislative District Democrats’ website and social

media accounts, and send a copy to all congressional representatives, the Governor, State Legislators, County Councils, and the cities within the boundaries of the First Legislative District, and share it with every candidate seeking endorsement from the 1st Legislative District Democrat.

Resolution Proposed by Jackie McGourty on behalf the Snohomish County Young Democrats,  
June 20, 2019

Recommended DO PASS by the 1<sup>st</sup> LD Issues Committee, July 2, 2019