

Resolution to Support Signature-gathering for Pending Tax-Reform Initiative

Whereas Washington has the most regressive state tax system in the country; and

Whereas Initiative 1077 would improve Washington's tax structure, making it more fair and allowing public revenues to better keep pace with economic growth and the need for services; and

Whereas I-1077 would reduce taxes for the majority of Washingtonians, specifically by lowering property taxes and exempting small businesses (80% of all Washington businesses) from the Business and Occupation tax, while applying an income tax only on income over \$200,000 for individuals and income over \$400,000 for couples (the wealthiest 3% of households, a population that is now paying the lowest percentage of income in state and local taxes and has enjoyed the most dramatic income gains in recent years); and

Whereas the income tax provided by I-1077 would compensate for its tax reductions and produce new revenue dedicated 70% to education and 30% to basic health/long-term care services; and

Whereas our platform calls for tax reform, including a state income tax, to make our tax system fairer and less regressive, while generating revenues sufficient to meet constitutional requirements (including full funding of public education) and to improve health care in our state;

Therefore, Be it Resolved that the 46th District Democrats support the more balanced state tax system embodied in Initiative 1077; and,

Be it Further Resolved that we urge Democrats and community members to participate in the signature-gathering campaign to qualify Initiative 1077, or any successor version thereof that provides similar middle-class tax relief and additional revenues by reducing property taxes and B & O taxes while imposing a high-earners income tax, for the November ballot.

Submitted by Sarajane Siegfriedt, Sarajane3h@comcast.net