

## RESOLUTION REGARDING RACIAL PROFILING

WHEREAS racial profiling occurs when law enforcement officials rely on race, ethnicity, national origin or religion in selecting which individuals to subject to investigative action; and

WHEREAS the practice of racial profiling violates our nation's basic constitutional commitment to equality before the law; and

WHEREAS the practice of racial profiling includes the targeting of Arabs, Muslims and South Asians, especially following the attacks of September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS there has not been a single documented incident in which racial profiling by law enforcement has resulted in the capture or detention of any suspect related to terrorism; and

WHEREAS Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI) and House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers (D-MI) recently introduced the End Racial Profiling Act in both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate; and

WHEREAS the End Racial Profiling Act (ERPA) builds on guidance issued by the Department of Justice in June 2003, banning federal law enforcement officials from engaging in racial profiling, and applies this prohibition to state and local law enforcement; and

WHEREAS ERPA expands the definition of racial profiling to include actions based on grounds of religion and national origin;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we urge all members of the Washington State Congressional delegation to support the End Racial Profiling Act and see that it is enacted into law by the U.S. Congress.

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_