

Resolution
In Support of Retaining the Caucuses in the State of Washington

Whereas, caucuses build community;

Whereas, Washington State values its populist tradition as a caucus state;

Whereas in 2008 at the insistence of the Secretary of State we had a costly presidential primary that had no effect on delegate or candidate selection;

Whereas delegate selection and candidate selection are the right and responsibility of political parties;

Whereas, the precinct caucuses are our best recruiting tool, and many active Democrats were first attracted to the party via participation in a caucus;

Whereas, the caucuses elevate the power of grass roots organizing and minimize the influence of money in our democracy;

Whereas, with the demise of polling place voting, the caucuses are one of Washington's last manifestations of all-comers, face-to-face democracy;

Whereas, identifying caucus attendees provides invaluable voter data that supports targeting and turnout operations for Democratic candidates for years;

Whereas, there are many ways to improve the organization, timing, and uses of the caucuses while retaining their many benefits;

Therefore, be it resolved that the King County Democrats urge the Washington State Democrats to retain, improve and strengthen the caucus system in the State of Washington.

This resolution shall be transmitted to the Washington State Democrats.

Approved by the 36th District Democrats at the monthly membership meeting on August 13, 2009.