

Sample of a Resolution:
Resolution to Promote 'Direct Use' of Woody Biomass as a Renewable Energy Resource

WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in one of the largest peer-reviewed scientific collaborations in history, has warned that the burning of fossil fuels and the resultant release of carbon dioxide from such non-renewable resources into our atmosphere is significantly intensifying global warming; and

WHEREAS rapid global warming is causing devastating ecological instability via positive feedback loops, including forest fires exacerbated by increased temperatures releasing additional carbon dioxide, have the potential to further increase rates of global climate change; and

WHEREAS woody biomass is a renewable resource which sequesters carbon dioxide during its growth phase; and

WHEREAS our federally-managed forests are over-crowded due to the alteration of natural cycles and constraints on the tools used by resource managers to advance forest health objectives; and

WHEREAS our over-dense national forests increase risk of large-scale, catastrophic, habitat-destroying forest fires; and

WHEREAS technologies exist to collect, process, and utilize the excess woody biomass that has created conditions for forest disease, bug-related devastation, and catastrophic forest fire; and

WHEREAS many forest-based communities in the U.S.A. have been economically injured by harvest suppression; and

WHEREAS economies around the world could be revitalized and enhanced with high quality and meaningful jobs in developing, manufacturing, installing, operating, and maintaining renewable energy infrastructure and strategies involving direct use of woody biomass in electrical/thermal co-generation via established boiler technology; and

WHEREAS responding to the global climate crisis would also result in achieving the energy independence increasingly promoted by the Democratic Party's elected officials;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the WA State Congressional Delegation is urged to actively support and promote U.S. Senate Bill S. 636, which calls for amendment of the Clean Air Act both to define 'woody biomass' and to allow removal of this material from "National Forest System land and public lands"; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Washington State Congressional delegation are urged to actively support and promote the immediate addition of direct use of woody biomass in boiler systems and other suitable heating appliances to the federal Renewable Fuel Standard.