

I-1776 RESOLUTION - WASHINGTON ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ACT (WADA)

Whereas, Initiative 1000 (I-1000) – Washington’s Initiative to the Legislature, was signed by nearly 400,000 voters, voted into law by the Washington State Legislature and came just 1% away from passage by the voters last November; and

Whereas, I-1000 has been reintroduced as Initiative 1776 (I-1776) to the People and filed with the WA Secretary of State as the Washington Anti-Discrimination Act (WADA); and

Whereas, I-1776 finds that, while Washington is one of America’s most economically and ethnically diverse states, seniors, women, the disabled, veterans, the LGBTQ+ community & people of color have experienced harsh discrimination, thus creating deadly health disparities; and

Whereas, I-1776 finds that the COVID-19 pandemic has unmasked the discriminatory educational, employment, economic & health disparities which have long plagued seniors, women, persons with disabilities, persons of color, military veterans, the LGBTQ+ community and other vulnerable communities in WA State; and

Whereas, I-1776 demands COVID-19 vaccines for all Washingtonians who voluntarily give their fully informed consent for a vaccination, and prohibits discrimination in the vaccine’s availability based on age, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, citizenship, county, income or employment; and

Whereas, I-1776 prohibits age discrimination in public jobs, schools and contracting and thus enables workers to be judged by their abilities and not their age; and

Whereas, I-1776 prohibits gender discrimination and helps our state colleges and universities increase the number of women pursuing degrees in the lucrative fields of science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM); and

Whereas, I-1776 strengthens veteran’s benefits by expanding Affirmative Action in employment beyond the Vietnam-era and disabled veterans to include all Veterans; and

Whereas, I-1776 helps small businesses compete for \$3.5 billion in state contracting opportunities which state officials reported were unfairly denied to qualified small, women and minority businesses since the passage of Tim Eyman’s Initiative 200 twenty-two (22) years ago;

Therefore, be it Resolved that the KING COUNTY DEMOCRATS endorse I-1776 as “do sign and vote yes”, to strengthen WA State’s discrimination statutes to protect individuals in public health, education, employment and contracting; and

Therefore, be it Further Resolved, that the KING COUNTY DEMOCRATS urge the Washington State Democrats, and all thirty-eight (38) County Democratic Central Committees to endorse the signature gathering and passage of the I-1776 ; and

Therefore, be it Finally Resolved, that copies of this resolution be sent to local news outlets and to the I-1776 campaign.