

Resolution in Support of the Congressional Accompaniment Program

Whereas the 2008 Congressional Accompaniment Program is a non-partisan fact-finding tour to Israel/Palestine funded by donations from constituents and other citizens, and;

Whereas the tour is tentatively scheduled for the spring recess of Congress in 2008, and;

Whereas, this educational tour will help elected officials make informed decisions regarding the Israel/Palestine region, and;

Whereas the tour is for the elected officials and/or their staff members, along with interested constituents funding their own trips, and;

Whereas the founding organizations have researched the Congressional rules governing travel reimbursements and are confident that the CAP trip is in full compliance (CAP is not a registered lobby and has no paid staff);

Therefore be it resolved that the Thurston County Democrats endorse the CAP project and encourage our elected representatives to take the 2008 tour or allow a member of their senior staff to do so.

A copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Rachel Corrie Foundation for inclusion in their packet of additional information that will be sent to Senators Murray and Cantwell and Representatives Baird and Smith.

Resolution Calling for the Impeachment of Richard Cheney

Whereas House Resolution 799 (HRes799) has been introduced on the floor of the US House with 23 sponsors and has advanced to the Judiciary Committee, and;

Whereas HRes799 lays out some but not all of the offenses of the Vice President, namely:

- purposely manipulating intelligence to fabricate a threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction in order to justify an attack on Iraq
- deceiving Congress about an alleged relationship between Iraq and al-Qaida
- threatening aggression against the Republic of Iran, absent any real threat to the United States, and;

Whereas the US Constitution provides an orderly way to stop abuse of power by executive officers in Article II, Section 4;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Thurston County Democrats hereby instruct our elected officials Brian Baird and Adam Smith to join immediately in the effort to advance HRes799 calling for the impeachment of Richard Cheney, and;

A copy of this resolution shall be delivered to the following elected representatives:

United States Congressman Brian Baird
United States Congressman Adam Smith
United States Senators Murray and Cantwell

State Senator Fraser
State Representatives Hunt and Williams
Thurston County Commissioners
The City Councils of Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater
Howard Dean, Democratic National Committee
Dwight Pelz, Chair, Washington State Democratic Central Committee

Resolution to Investigate the Abuse of Authority by Law Enforcement Officials During the November 2007 Olympia Port Protests

WHEREAS, the Citizens of the United States have a constitutional right to publically voice their dissent to the actions and policies of their elected representatives and all public officials are constitutionally mandated to respect this right

WHEREAS, the actions and policies of the current federal administration with regard to the instigation and pursuance of the War in Iraq are arguably illegal and opposed by a large majority of the American people

WHEREAS, public demonstrations and civil disobedience have been traditional avenue of action by our citizens to challenge unethical and extra-constitutional abuses by the institutions of our society.

WHEREAS, public law enforcement officials are required by law and precedence to remain neutral, respecting the individual rights and persons of those citizens exercising this right to dissent and most especially avoiding excesses in the use of force and coercion that might create a climate of fear and intimidation against all citizens' right to dissent.

WHEREAS, the Olympia Police Department clearly used excessive and unreasonable force beyond their legal authority during the November 2007 Olympia Port Protests Against the Iraq War, as witnessed by both participants in that protest and by other casual observers.

WHEREAS, it is in the interests of every citizen into ensure that law enforcement officials, who are acting under the authority granted to them by the people, must use restraint in the exercise of that authority, respecting the principles of free speech and the right to assemble as enumerated in our constitution and thus guarding rights of all the people.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thurston County Democrats (TCD) call for an investigation by an independent authority into the actions of all law enforcement officials, up the entire command chain, to determine if officers committed illegal or reprehensible actions against the protesters during the November 2007 Olympia Port Protests

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that TCD will ask that if unacceptable actions are found to have occurred, either by direct testimony or by the preponderance of evidence, that those responsible be held accountable and that a review of police policies and procedures be undertaken by legally accountable authorities with the goal of eliminating policies and practices within enforcement organizations that encourage or condone these unacceptable actions.