

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE TO CREATE WASHINGTON'S FIRST STATEWIDE COMMISSION TO STUDY REPARATIONS, REMEDIES & RECONCILIATION FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF AMERICAN CHATTEL SLAVERY**

WHEREAS, ARTICLE III, SECTION 2 OF THE WASHINGTON STATE CONSTITUTION VESTS THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE POWER OF THIS STATE IN THE GOVERNOR,

WHEREAS, ARTICLE III, SECTION 15 OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION STATES THAT ALL COMMISSIONS SHALL ISSUE IN THE NAME OF THE STATE, SHALL BE SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR, SEALED WITH THE SEAL OF THE STATE, AND BE ATTESTED TO BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WHEREAS, RCW 43.06.010 (1) (2) (3) & (11) STATES THAT IN ADDITION TO THOSE POWERS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE CONSTITUTION, THE GOVERNOR MAY EXERCISE THE POWERS AND PERFORM THE FOLLOWING DUTIES: (1) Supervise the conduct of all executive and ministerial offices; (2) See that all offices are filled, including as provided in RCW 42.12.070 and 42.12.080; (3) Make appointments and fill vacancies; (11) Require any officer or board to make, upon demand, special reports to the governor, in writing;

WHEREAS, the January, 2013 Washington Handbook on State Boards & Commissions, states that Boards and commissions are created by executive orders, state laws and rules and federal laws and regulations, and that such Advisory bodies may be created by the Governor, Legislature, individual agencies or existing boards.

WHEREAS, the January, 2013 Washington Handbook on State Boards & Commissions, states that while members of Advisory Boards and Commissions do not have authority to enforce policy or make rules, they may serve as advisers on public policy matters to the appointing authority responsible for administering policy and may study policy and make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature.

WHEREAS, According to Governor Inslee's 2023 Supplemental Budget Report, nearly 50% of Washington state's estimated 300,000 African American residents are living below the poverty level;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington State Democratic Party enact this resolution directing Governor Jay Inslee, the elected leader of the Washington State Democratic Party work with a coalition of African American community leaders to develop and issue a 2024 Executive Order creating Washington State's first statewide Commission to study Reparations, Remedies & Reconciliation for Washington's African-American Descendants of American Chattel Slavery and report the Commission's findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Washington State Legislature.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee (WSDCC) submit this resolution to the WSDCC Resolutions Committee and the entire Delegation for a vote at the Washington State Democratic State Convention, June 21-23, 2024.

Submitted April 27, 2024 by Jesse Wineberry, Washington State Delegate, 37<sup>th</sup> Legislative District