**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE**

Sponsored by John Burbank

**WHEREAS,**  workers should have the right to paid family and medical leave to care for a newborn or newly adopted child or their own serious health condition; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Seattle have successfully implemented family leave for city employees; and

**WHEREAS,** in 2007, the Washington State Legislature passed a limited Family Leave and Medical Insurance program, but did not set up a mechanism for funding the program and has now indefinitely postponed implementation; and

**WHEREAS,** other states, including California, New Jersey, and Rhode Island have successfully established programs that provide partial wage replacement during extended leaves to care for a new child or sick family member, or for the worker’s own disability or serious health condition, funded through modest payroll taxes; and

**WHEREAS,** State Representative June Robinson, D-Everett, and State Senator Karen Keiser have introduced House Bill 1273 and Senate Bill 5459 to implement family and medical leave insurance, which will fully fund and expand the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program to include caring for ill family members and the worker’s own disability as well as care of a new child, funded through a .2% payroll premium; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** the 36th District Democrats support House Bill 1273 and Senate Bill 5459 and request that our legislators sponsor these bills and work to move them to a vote on the floors of their respective chambers, and be it

**RESOLVED,** that this resolution be forwarded to the King County Democrats and the Washington State Democrats to ask for their support in this effort as well.