

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PAID SICK DAYS
TO PROMOTE A HEALTHY WORKFORCE

WHEREAS ensuring that workers can care for their health needs without losing a day's wages or even their job builds family economic security; and

WHEREAS we should encourage sick workers and children to stay home, away from coworkers, school, and customers; and

WHEREAS 42 percent of (190,000) Seattle workers have no paid sick leave, losing income they would otherwise spend in local businesses when ill; and

WHEREAS for 69 percent of school-age children in King County, both parents work, and parents without sick leave are less likely to stay home with an ill child, sometimes being forced to send the sick child to daycare or school, or keep an older child home from school; and

WHEREAS paid sick days enable workers to seek preventive care and early treatment for themselves, their children, and elderly parents; and

WHEREAS limiting the spread of disease, reducing the potential for workplace accidents, and boosting employee productivity and morale benefit the workplace and the community; and

WHEREAS preventive care and early treatment lower costs, help people recover more quickly, and shorten hospital stays, while care by family members avoids costly nursing services; and

WHEREAS the presence of loved ones often results in better patient outcomes, and

WHEREAS any illness may reduce productivity, increase the chance of accidents, and spread disease to co-workers, and studies show paid sick leave boosts morale, commitment, retention, productivity and profits; and

WHEREAS "Paid Sick Days" legislation would establish a minimum accrual of paid sick time, allowing employers to meet minimum standards in flexible ways,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the King County Democrats urge support of the efforts of the Coalition for a Healthy Workforce to pass "Paid Sick Days" legislation in Seattle and other jurisdictions in King County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to mayors, city council members, the county executive, and county council members in King County.

Passed by The King County Democratic Central Committee,
April 27, 2010