



# DEMOCRATS

## 30<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT ☆ WASHINGTON

30th District Democrats  
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## Resolution To Support S.B. 5078 and HB 1698: The Legislative Requirement that Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates Disclose Five Years of Tax Returns in Order to Appear on Washington's Primary and General Election Ballot

**WHEREAS** a democratic norm has been established in that Presidential candidates of all parties have disclosed their tax returns for over forty years, following the failure of President Richard Nixon to fully comply with the tax code; and

**WHEREAS** tax returns, as former Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney has observed, "provide the public with its sole confirmation of the veracity of a candidate's representations regarding charities, priorities, wealth, tax conformance, and conflicts of interest..." and may reveal "...inappropriate associations with foreign entities, criminal organizations, or other unsavory groups;" and

**WHEREAS** President Donald Trump, while candidate, and continuing to this date as President, despite vowing on numerous occasions to do so, has not disclosed his tax returns to the public; and the Democratic Party of Washington State has a longstanding tradition of supporting democratic norms and promoting greater transparency in government; and

**WHEREAS** Washington state Senator Patty Kuderer (48th Legislative District) has introduced SB 5078 in the Washington state Senate in 2019 and Representative Derek Stanford (1st Legislative District) has introduced HB 1698 in the House. These bills will institute a procedural requirement that all future presidential and vice-presidential candidates of all parties disclose their most recent five years of tax returns, in order to appear on a primary or general election ballot in the State of Washington;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the 30th Legislative District Democratic Party of Washington State goes on record supporting both bills SB 5078 and HB 1698, introduced respectively by Senator Kuderer and Representative Stanford.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 30th Legislative District Democratic Party of Washington State will work with our Legislative representatives, our Governor and others so that they understand that it is our firm belief that requiring presidential candidate tax return disclosure is an essential democratic norm that must be restored and will benefit all voters, regardless of party affiliation, in all future primary elections.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that our own state legislators be queried as to what action they have taken and intend to take in response to this Resolution.

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Democratic PCO 1st Legislative District

Approved on March 6, 2019 by the 30th District Democrats.

*Allison Fine Taylor*

Allison Fine Taylor, Chair

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