Resolution Calling on Governor Ferguson to Support Progressive Revenue

WHEREAS, the State of Washington has the second most regressive tax code in the country, meaning that low-income residents pay a larger portion of their incomes on taxes than higher income residents; and

WHEREAS an October 2024 report by the congressional budget office found that nationally between 1989 and 2022 the uneven distribution of family wealth increased, with families in the top 10 percent of the distribution holding 60 percent of all wealth and those in the top one percent of the distribution holding 27 percent of all wealth; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington is facing a $10-12 billion dollar budget deficit over the next four years; and

WHEREAS, it is the paramount duty of the State to amply fund public education for all of its students, and the State is currently not fully funding our public schools, particularly for students who need additional support; and

WHEREAS, the President and his administration are currently engaged in an illegal and unconstitutional campaign of impoundment of funds levied and disbursed by Congress for the general welfare of the American people and specifically the people of the State of Washington, particularly in relation to public education; and

WHEREAS, Republicans in Congress are developing a tax plan that gives smaller tax cuts to most Americans while increasing tax cuts for the rich, and raising costs for healthcare, housing, energy, and education; and

WHEREAS, the livelihoods, health, and security of the people of the State of Washington depend on the around $25 billion dollars of taxes levied and disbursed by Acts of Congress annually, including $2.7 billion dollars for public education, and those funds are in jeopardy; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Washington have shown their support for progressive taxation of rich individuals, particularly to fund public education, through the defeat of Initiative 2109, where 64% of voting residents supported maintaining a capital gains tax**;**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 48th LD Democrats call on Governor Bob Ferguson to wholeheartedly *offer his public endorsement of a wealth tax in Washington State*; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 48th LD Democrats call on all the 48th LD Legislators to endorse both HB 1319 enacting a wealth tax in Washington State and HB 1785 enacting a surcharge on excessive executive compensation in Washington State; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to Governor Bob Ferguson, to all the 48th LD Legislators, and to the media, and that every resident of the 48th LD is exhorted to advocate for the wealth tax and surcharge on excessive executive compensation by contacting the Governor's office via phone at 360-902-4111 or online form at https://governor.wa.gov/contacting-governor, and contacting our legislators at https://leg.wa.gov/help/contact-us/.

Adopted on March 12, 2025