

Resolution on Dissolution of Joint Operating Agreement

proposed by Ivan Weiss Passed July 9, 2003

WHEREAS the Puget Sound community is served by a rich diversity of print, broadcast, and electronic media; and

WHEREAS a diversity of media provides a variety of forums from which residents and voters can seek news and other information about events and issues important to our shared community, and this variety of media benefits the people of the 34th District and the community at large by allowing the expression of a wider range of opinions and comments on community issues; and

WHEREAS the potential dissolution of the Seattle Joint Operating Agreement authorized by the federal Newspaper Preservation Act threatens to diminish this very diversity by the closure of one of Seattle's daily newspapers, which have been important voices in and for our community for well over a century, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the 34th District Democrats will encourage the Hearst Corp. and the Seattle Times Co. to amicably settle the differences between them in a manner that ensures the survival of two daily newspapers in Seattle, and be it further

RESOLVED that Democrats in the 34th District will write letters to the publishers of the Seattle Times and Seattle Post-Intelligencer, urging them so seek and commit to a solution that will allow both newspapers to continue operating at full capacity, and be it finally

RESOLVED that the 34th District Democrats will urge other District Democratic and Republican organizations to pass similar resolutions endorsing a two-newspaper solution to the current JOA crisis and to send letters supporting this outcome to the publishers of the Seattle Times and Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

RESOLVED that the 34th District Democrats will advise the Department of Justice Anti-Fraud Division of our opposition to the dissolution of the Joint Operating Agreement between the Seattle Post Intelligencer and the Seattle Times newspapers.