

**Counselor Staffing and Funding Resolution
Unanimously Approved May 6, 2000**

**Washington Federation of Teachers
Annual State Convention**

Whereas: The 1999 convention of the Washington Federation of Teachers unanimously approved a resolution to form a WFT taskforce to study the loss of counselor positions in the State of Washington Community and Technical College system, and

Whereas: The taskforce has found that over the last fifteen years approximately one-third of counselor positions have been lost, while student FTE's have grown over 60%, and

Whereas: The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges is responsible to set state counseling staffing and funding standards to ensure quality comprehensive open-door educational programs, and

Whereas: Several colleges are left with only one full time counselor, and

Whereas: Cascadia Community College, our state's newest community college, plans to hire no counselors, and

Whereas: The WFT Counseling Taskforce has made important contacts with supportive key legislators, and

Whereas: Faculty duties are being reassigned outside of the faculty bargaining unit, and

Whereas: WFT's solidarity, along with WEA's involvement, can address this issue, be it therefore

Resolved: That the WFT Counseling Taskforce continue its original charge of examining the loss of Counselor positions. Be it further

Resolved: That the WFT encourage locals to oppose the hiring of classified staff and administrative positions to perform faculty counseling and advising duties, and be it further

Resolved: That the WFT encourage locals to pursue remedies to correct examples of bargaining unit skimming and outsourcing of faculty counseling and advising duties, and be it further

Resolved: That the WFT request that the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges study issues surrounding state counseling staffing and funding standards. Be it further

Resolved: That the WFT lobby the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to uphold the intentions of the community college act requiring them to set staffing and funding standards necessary to provide adequate counseling to maintain comprehensive open-door educational programs. Be it further

Resolved: That the WFT work through the legislature and legal resources as appropriate to address counselor staffing and funding concerns.