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A Resolution

Whereas, Wall Street investment banks, hedge funds, and other financial institutions are making record profits and paying record bonuses at a time when millions of Americans continue to lose their homes and jobs in a worsening economy;

Whereas, the poverty level in the United States is now at its highest level in almost three decades and, in the state of Washington, one in every four children in public schools now come from households living below the poverty level;

Whereas, debit-card holders with less than \$20,000 deposited with a bank are to be forced to pay \$5 a month for the privilege of using debit cards to "help the banks recapture losses" as a result of tightened banking regulations, so imposing an additional financial burden on the working and middle classes;

Whereas, further significant deficits are projected within this current Washington state budget, and will likely result in new additional cuts to education and other human services;

Whereas, educators throughout the state of Washington have taken pay cuts to balance the state budget deficit;

Whereas, educators and public sector workers will continually face funding and pay cuts unless new revenue sources are taxed and tax-avoidance loopholes closed, including those currently used by large out-of-state financial institutions;

Therefore, be it hereby resolved that the Washington Education Association, believing in the fundamental principle of an "injustice to one is an injustice to all," stands in solidarity with those in Seattle, New York, Denver, Washington D.C., and cities across the United States engaged in highlighting the profound injustice of the ever-widening economic and financial inequalities between the bankers of Wall Street and the educators of Main Street;

And be it further resolved that the Washington Education Association, on behalf of its 82,000 members, share this resolution with its national and state labor allies and community partners as a sign of unity with these national, regional and local activities.

October 7, 2011