

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8402

State of Washington **52nd Legislature** **1991 Regular Session**

By Senators Murray, Bailey, Rinehart, A. Smith and Pelz.

Read first time January 29, 1991. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 WHEREAS, The quality of education is improved when teachers are
2 able to work and live in the same community; and

3 WHEREAS, In many areas of the state affordable housing is becoming
4 an increasingly scarce commodity; and

5 WHEREAS, The average cost of purchasing a house in large
6 metropolitan areas of this state is in excess of one hundred sixty-five
7 thousand dollars with monthly payments for mortgage, taxes, and
8 insurance of almost sixteen hundred dollars a month; and

9 WHEREAS, A person would need an annual income of at least fifty-
10 three thousand dollars to qualify for a loan on a house; and

11 WHEREAS, The highest paid teacher in the state only makes forty-two
12 thousand dollars a year and that teacher is required to have a PhD and
13 fifteen or more years' experience and a beginning teacher earns between
14 twenty thousand dollars with a BA and twenty-three thousand nine
15 hundred eighty dollars with an MA; and

1 WHEREAS, Many teachers cannot afford to live in the areas in which
2 they work making it more difficult for those teachers to maintain vital
3 links with the school community including participation in after school
4 activities; and

5 WHEREAS, Housing assistance programs for teachers would help school
6 districts and the state recruit and retain qualified teachers and
7 improve the quality of education by enabling those teachers to live in
8 the same communities as their students do; and

9 WHEREAS, Programs are being designed around the country to help
10 employees obtain affordable housing including group mortgage
11 origination, closing cost subsidies, mortgage guarantees, group
12 mortgage insurance, down payment loans, mortgage buydown programs, and
13 the purchase of mortgagebacked securities; and

14 WHEREAS, Both public and private entities exist in the state of
15 Washington that are able to establish housing assistance programs for
16 teachers;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the State of
18 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That the
19 establishment of housing assistance programs for teachers be encouraged
20 and that public and private entities be encouraged to establish those
21 programs; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature recognizes that
23 encouraging the provision of housing assistance to teachers in the
24 state of Washington will be an important inducement towards creating
25 and maintaining excellent teachers and thus a high quality education
26 system in the state of Washington; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit
28 copies of this resolution to the Housing Finance Commission, the
29 Department of Community Development, Housing Division, to distribute to
30 interested parties throughout the state of Washington, to the

1 Washington State School Directors Association to make available to
2 school boards across the state, to the Washington Education
3 Association, and to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.