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**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8004**

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**State of Washington**

**57th Legislature**

**2001 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Spanel, Swecker, Patterson, Hargrove, Costa, Eide, Fraser, Thibaudeau, Franklin, Regala, Gardner, Prentice, Kline, Kohl-Welles and Haugen

Read first time 01/12/2001. Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Water.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE  
3 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF  
4 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives  
6 of the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,  
7 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The marine waters located in the Strait of Juan de  
9 Fuca between the State of Washington and Canada are some of the  
10 most pristine and diverse marine waters in the United States and  
11 include irreplaceable natural resources; and

12 WHEREAS, The area includes such national treasures as the  
13 Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary and the Olympic National  
14 Park, for which the federal government acts as the trustee  
15 thereof; and

16 WHEREAS, The area is home to five federally recognized Indian  
17 reservations for which the federal government has the  
18 responsibility of protecting treaty rights over tribal fishing;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, The area is the habitat for several threatened and

1 endangered species as designated by the federal government; and

2 WHEREAS, The marine waters are used by a large portion of the  
3 federal government's strategic naval fleet, which poses a risk of  
4 oil spills; and

5 WHEREAS, The marine waters are used for transportation of  
6 petroleum products that are used to meet the energy needs in the  
7 Western United States; and

8 WHEREAS, These marine waters are of great environmental and  
9 economic importance to not only the State of Washington, but also  
10 to the people of Canada and the United States; and

11 WHEREAS, The marine vessel traffic on these waters presents  
12 risks of accidents and oil spills that would be devastating to the  
13 environment and to the economy; and

14 WHEREAS, The safety of these waters is currently substantially  
15 improved on a temporary basis by an oil spill prevention tugboat  
16 stationed at the westward end of the Strait, the cost of which is  
17 currently borne solely by the State of Washington;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that  
19 Congress appropriate sufficient budgetary support to permanently  
20 station an oil spill prevention tugboat, of adequate size, and  
21 with rescue, fire fighting, spill response, and lifesaving  
22 capabilities, at the westward end of the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

23 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
24 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the  
25 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the  
26 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of  
27 Congress from the State of Washington.

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