

SENATE RESOLUTION
8606

By Senators Schmidt, Roach, Rasmussen, Hale, Johnson, Carlson, Honeyford, B. Sheldon, Regala, Fraser, Brown, Zarelli, Benton, Shin, T. Sheldon, Eide, McAuliffe, Mulliken, Spanel, Stevens and Kohl-Welles

WHEREAS, Over eight thousand men and women of the Washington National Guard comprised of Air National Guard and Army National Guard continue to serve the country as Guardians of American interests at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, These recognized leaders in state, regional, and national preparedness, who reside in every legislative district throughout Washington, volunteer their time and personal efforts to serve the needs of the people of Washington state; and

WHEREAS, The Washington National Guard continues to be prepared to answer the state's call in response to floods, fires, civil disturbances, and all other natural or manmade emergencies and disasters; and

WHEREAS, The Washington National Guard has provided additional security at our state's airports, at our international borders, during the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, and at numerous locations across the globe in protection of our state and nation in answer to the war on terrorism and response to the horrific terrorist attacks on our nation September 11th 2001; and

WHEREAS, The Washington National Guard continues its promoting of positive lifestyles and activities for Washington's youth through involvement and support in highly effective drug prevention programs with school-aged children and community-based organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Washington National Guard continues an active participation in the state's counterdrug efforts by providing soldiers, airmen, and specialized equipment in support of many local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The dedication of these men and women last year contributed to hundreds of drug-related arrests and seizures and the destruction of millions of dollars of illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, The Washington National Guard adds value to communities by opening armories for public use, assistance to food banks, and other community and youth activities. The Washington National Guard continues to build upon these readiness centers/armories throughout the state to enhance education, add to quality of life, and increase economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, Select members and units of the Washington National Guard are now serving throughout the world in critical missions supporting the nation in the war on terrorism with dedication, valor, and courage, and at great personal risk and sacrifice;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate express its thanks and appreciation to the devoted families and dedicated employers of our Washington National Guard soldiers and airmen for their support without which the Washington National Guard's missions could not be successful; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate specifically and particularly recognize the value and dedication of a strong Washington National Guard to the viability, economy, safety, security, and well-being of this state, both through the outstanding performance of its state emergency and disaster relief mission, and through the continued benefit to local communities by the presence of productively employed, drug-free, and well-equipped and trained Guard units and the readiness center/armories that house them; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Adjutant General of the Washington National Guard, the Governor of the State of Washington, the Secretaries of the Army and Air Force, and the President of the United States.

I, Milton H. Doumit, Jr., Secretary of the Senate,
do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8606,

adopted by the Senate
January 29, 2003

MILTON H. DOUMIT, JR.
Secretary of the Senate