

SENATE RESOLUTION
8709

By Senators Morton and Parlette

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of the Washington State Senate to honor the great entrepreneurs and family businesses that have uniquely shaped the Northwest; and

WHEREAS, Gebbers Farms is celebrating its centennial anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Dan Gamble planted his first apple orchard in Brewster, Washington in 1910;
and

WHEREAS, Dan Gamble built his first apple packing shed in 1918; and

WHEREAS, Martha Gamble was the first baby girl born in the new town of Brewster; and

WHEREAS, In 1927, John Gebbers and Martha Gamble married and established a home in Brewster where John ran the family orchards and cattle ranch while Martha operated the apple packing shed and saw mill; and

WHEREAS, During the depression, Martha Gebbers issued her own scrip to pay her employees and vendors and continued to grow her operations while selling apples on the streets of Los Angeles and continued moving winter apple supplies throughout southern California, Las Vegas, and Phoenix until the late 1950s; and

WHEREAS, In 1941, Martha Gebbers was one of the first businesses to recruit a work force through a guest worker program allowing the company to build and operate a new apple warehouse in Brewster, as well as help run the cattle ranch and saw mill during the war years; and

WHEREAS, In 1968, the family planted some of Washington's first Granny Smith apple trees and is now one of the leading sources of that variety, as well as Fuji, Gala, Red Delicious, and Golden Delicious apples; and

WHEREAS, With over 5,000 acres of orchard, the Gebbers Family now farms one of the largest contiguous apple orchards in the world; and

WHEREAS, Gebbers Farms is one of the major suppliers of late season sweet cherries; and

WHEREAS, Gebbers Farms is one hundred percent family owned and managed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate does hereby acknowledge and honor Gebbers Farms in celebration of its 100th year in operation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Gebbers Family Farm.

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate,
do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8709,
adopted by the Senate
February 25, 2010

THOMAS HOEMANN
Secretary of the Senate