

SENATE RESOLUTION  
8620

By Senators Honeyford, Hargrove, Hatfield, Hill, Becker, Bailey, Parlette, Kohl-Welles, O'Ban, Mullet, Dammeier, Brown, Fraser, Billig, Braun, Keiser, Conway, Hewitt, Warnick, Ranker, Padden, Schoesler, and Roach

1           WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol was commissioned December 1, 1941,  
2 just days before the attack on Pearl Harbor, for the purpose of  
3 liaison flying and interdiction of infiltrators on the East Coast and  
4 southern border of the United States, and thereafter the Civil Air  
5 Patrol insignia, a red three-bladed propeller in the Civil Defense  
6 white-triangle-in-blue-circle, began appearing; and  
7           WHEREAS, When German submarines began to prey on American ships,  
8 the Civil Air Patrol's mission grew to include a 1,000-member coastal  
9 patrol, 64 of whom died in service and 26 of whom were lost at sea;  
10 and  
11           WHEREAS, After a crew was forced to watch in vain as a grounded  
12 submarine off Cape Canaveral, Florida escaped before the military  
13 arrived, Civil Air Patrol planes were issued bombs and depth charges,  
14 and thereafter the Civil Air Patrol coastal patrol flew 24 million  
15 miles and found 173 submarines, ultimately attacking 57, hitting 10,  
16 and sinking 2; and  
17           WHEREAS, By presidential executive order, the Civil Air Patrol  
18 became an auxiliary of the United States Army Air Forces on April 28,  
19 1943, and several months later the Germans withdrew coastal U-boat  
20 operations "because of those damned little red and yellow airplanes";  
21 and  
22           WHEREAS, On December 10, 2014, the Civil Air Patrol was awarded  
23 the Congressional Gold Medal in honor of the founding members' role  
24 in protecting our coasts against deadly German U-boat attacks during  
25 World War II and carrying out other vital wartime missions; and  
26           WHEREAS, The Congressional Gold Medal marks the first major  
27 recognition of the volunteer services by the men, women, and  
28 teenagers who joined the Civil Air Patrol to serve their country  
29 during World War II; and  
30           WHEREAS, Richard Hagman and Warren Davis are residents of  
31 Washington State and among the fewer than 100 founding patrol members  
32 believed to be alive today, and are joined by James Campbell and  
33 Gordon Ebbert, who both recently passed away; and

1           WHEREAS, During the postwar years, the Civil Air Patrol was  
2 put to work in search and rescue missions, saving the United  
3 States millions of dollars in operational costs as the only  
4 organization with the equipment and training to perform this  
5 vital job, with military aircraft being far too expensive to  
6 operate and flying too fast to accurately spot downed planes and  
7 personnel; and

8           WHEREAS, During the deadly 2014 Oso mudslide, the Civil Air  
9 Patrol flew vital supplies to areas unreachable by heavier  
10 aircraft, and ground teams helped to evacuate cities and towns;  
11 and

12           WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol has a cadet program with over  
13 23,000 participants between the ages of 12 and 20, one of its  
14 major attractions being its aerospace program, which provides  
15 both classroom and practical instruction in flight and rocketry,  
16 and offers each cadet the opportunity to participate in  
17 orientation flights in both powered and glider aircraft while  
18 learning search and rescue techniques and other valuable skills,  
19 emphasizing military history, leadership, and service within the  
20 squadron and to the community as a whole; and

21           WHEREAS, Over 16,000 students in kindergarten through 6th  
22 grade completed the Aerospace Connections in Education program  
23 developed by the Civil Air Patrol and the United States Air  
24 Force; and

25           WHEREAS, Today's Civil Air Patrol continues its service and  
26 commitment to our state and country with three primary missions:  
27 Aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services; and

28           WHEREAS, In Washington State alone, the Civil Air Patrol is  
29 composed of approximately 725 senior members and 604 cadets, who  
30 flew their 11 aircraft 2,100 hours in 2014 alone in service to  
31 our state, at a value of 3 million dollars in volunteer hours;  
32 and

33           WHEREAS, The Washington Wing was ranked first for hours  
34 flown per aircraft among all wings in the Civil Air Patrol  
35 Pacific Region, which includes wings from Alaska, California,  
36 Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington, and was ranked 14th for  
37 hours flown per wing out of the 57 Civil Air Patrol units  
38 nationwide;

39           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State  
40 Senate recognize the Washington State wing of the Civil Air  
41 Patrol for its courageous and unwavering dedication to our  
42 citizens; and

43           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
44 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to  
45 Colonel James P. Furlong, Commander of the Civil Air Patrol  
46 Washington Wing.

47 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,  
48 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
49 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8620,  
50 adopted by the Senate  
51 February 24, 2015

52 HUNTER G. GOODMAN

1 Secretary of the Senate