

SENATE RESOLUTION

8683

By Senators McAuliffe, Jayapal, Mullet, Cleveland, Rolfes, Fraser, Ranker, Hasegawa, Sheldon, Parlette, Pedersen, Ericksen, Fain, Litzow, Warnick, Chase, Dansel, Hatfield, Billig, Nelson, Becker, Conway, Darneille, Hewitt, Dammeier, Bailey, Benton, and Kohl-Welles

1 WHEREAS, On April 25, 2015, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake shook and
2 shattered Nepal 50 miles west of Kathmandu; and

3 WHEREAS, More than 7,500 people lost their lives, thousands were
4 left homeless, and many more were grievously wounded in the
5 earthquake, which was the most powerful earthquake in Nepal in over
6 80 years; and

7 WHEREAS, Tent cities have been fashioned for the hundreds of
8 thousands who have lost their homes or cannot return home for fear of
9 aftershocks; and

10 WHEREAS, The destruction of Durbar squares laden with Hindu
11 temples and Buddhist stupas in the Kathmandu Valley has resulted in
12 irreparable damage to Nepal's cultural heritage; and

13 WHEREAS, Courageous first responders, the Government of Nepal and
14 its military, and civilians have worked tirelessly and selflessly to
15 save the lives of those stranded on mountain tops, cut off in remote
16 villages, and buried under rubble; and

17 WHEREAS, Nepal is a country blessed by the awe-inspiring
18 magnificence of snowcapped Himalayas, the glacial foaming of roaring
19 rivers, and the cleansing purity of verdant valleys; and

20 WHEREAS, The people of Nepal are icons of bravery, and their
21 homes legendary for their instant warmth and hospitality; and

22 WHEREAS, In the aftermath of this calamity, the thing that stands
23 out is the instant compassion and can-do resourcefulness: The push

1 cart vendor who gave all his fruit to tent city occupants, the
2 selfless nurses and doctors working without rest, the thousands
3 of volunteers braving the odds to work tirelessly through the
4 night to rescue those trapped under rubble; and

5 WHEREAS, The full extent of the damage from this tragedy is
6 still unknown; and

7 WHEREAS, The United States is home to more than 100,000
8 people of Nepali ancestry, with Seattle having one of the
9 largest communities in the nation; and

10 WHEREAS, Nepali-Americans and others in Washington State
11 have close family members and relatives who have been affected
12 or lost in this tragedy, and are still coping with its after-
13 effects; and

14 WHEREAS, There continue to be at least two Washingtonians—
15 both recent high school graduates—who remain lost; and

16 WHEREAS, Several organizations based in Washington State
17 have numerous staff members living in Nepal, contributing to
18 relief efforts and also suffering the effects of the earthquake;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Even in the grim aftermath of this disaster, hope
21 shines through for the people of Nepal;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
23 Senate express its deepest and most heartfelt condolences for
24 the people of Nepal's unfathomable loss, especially for those
25 Washingtonians who are closely connected to Nepal; and

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
27 thank those Washingtonians who contribute to and aid in the
28 relief efforts in Nepal through financial contributions to
29 reputable agencies, volunteering of their professional medical
30 skills and time, and other contributions that help the health
31 and safety of those affected.

32 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
33 do hereby certify that this is a true and
34 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8683,
35 adopted by the Senate

1 May 28, 2015

2 HUNTER G. GOODMAN

3 Secretary of the Senate