

SENATE RESOLUTION

8695

By Senators Becker, Fraser, Brown, Ranker, Dammeier, Nelson, Hewitt, Hasegawa, Darneille, Angel, Parlette, Rolfes, McCoy, and Jayapal

1 WHEREAS, On July 30, 2016, in Olympia, upwards of 20,000 visitors  
2 will enthusiastically welcome the arrival of more than 100 tribal  
3 canoes as they conclude long distance journeys as participants in  
4 this year's Tribal Canoe Journey, "2016 Paddle to Nisqually," hosted  
5 by the Nisqually Tribe, whose homeland is south Puget Sound; and

6 WHEREAS, The canoes will represent approximately 60 tribes from  
7 many locations in Washington, Alaska, and British Columbia, as well  
8 as from other states and countries, and will arrive at the Port of  
9 Olympia's NorthPoint near Swantown Marina in downtown Olympia; and

10 WHEREAS, Following their arrival in Olympia, the canoes will join  
11 together in multiday cultural festivities until August 6th, which  
12 festivities are open to the public, at the Nisqually Tribal community  
13 at Olympia, halfway between Olympia and Yelm, in Thurston County; and

14 WHEREAS, The Tribal Canoe Journey, "2016 Paddle to Nisqually,"  
15 represents a revival of traditional canoe culture fundamental to  
16 traditional Native American life around Puget Sound, the Salish Sea,  
17 the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the Pacific Ocean, and other Pacific  
18 Northwest marine waters, which frequently involved long journeys for  
19 economic, social, and cultural purposes; and

20 WHEREAS, The Tribal Canoe Journeys have become a vital activity  
21 for the revitalization of cultural expression to allow Native  
22 American families to pass along their traditional way of life to  
23 younger generations; and

1           WHEREAS, The inaugural Tribal Canoe Journey, "Paddle to  
2 Seattle," coincided with the 1989 State of Washington's  
3 Centennial Celebration and brought 17 tribes together as a  
4 tribute to the Salish Seas tribal canoe tradition and cultural  
5 heritage; and

6           WHEREAS, "2016 Paddle to Nisqually" is a community-building,  
7 youth-focused, drug- and alcohol-free, waste-free event, with  
8 the motto "Don't Forget the Water";

9           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate heartily  
10 welcome to the state capitol the many tribal members and tribal  
11 paddlers, support teams, hundreds of volunteers, and thousands  
12 of enthusiastic visitors who will participate in the Tribal  
13 Canoe Journey, "2016 Paddle to Nisqually" historic gathering;  
14 and

15           BE IT FURTHER, That the Senate congratulate the Nisqually  
16 Tribe for its leadership in organizing and hosting the Canoe  
17 Journey, "2016 Paddle to Nisqually" event, and further express  
18 its appreciation to the City of Olympia, the Port of Olympia,  
19 Thurston County, and hundreds of volunteers for their active  
20 support of this historic event; and

21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate express its  
22 admiration for the personal fitness and endurance of the tribal  
23 paddlers, many of whom will have paddled for hundreds of miles  
24 to arrive in Olympia; and

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
26 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the  
27 Nisqually Tribe, the City of Olympia, the Port of Olympia, and  
28 Thurston County.

29 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,  
30 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
31 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8695,  
32 adopted by the Senate  
33 February 1, 2016

34 HUNTER G. GOODMAN  
35 Secretary of the Senate