

SENATE RESOLUTION

8703

By Senators Hobbs, Carlyle, Liiias, Warnick, Pedersen, McCoy, Braun, Mullet, Honeyford, Sheldon, Conway, Rivers, Ericksen, Dammeier, McAuliffe, King, Litzow, Ranker, Angel, Bailey, Hewitt, Padden, Chase, Nelson, Fraser, Rolfes, Fain, Cleveland, Takko, Brown, and Jayapal

1 WHEREAS, More than eight thousand men and women of the Washington  
2 National Guard continue to serve the country as guardians of American  
3 interests at home and abroad; and

4 WHEREAS, These recognized leaders in state, regional, and  
5 national preparedness, who reside in nearly every legislative  
6 district throughout Washington, volunteer their time and put personal  
7 lives aside when the needs of the people of Washington state arise;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The Guard always answers the state's call in response to  
10 all emergency efforts to protect lives and property, and recently  
11 mobilized more than 1,500 soldiers and airmen and airwomen to respond  
12 to the state's largest wildfire; and

13 WHEREAS, The Guard continues to train and prepare for both  
14 natural disasters and threats to our national security, including  
15 cyber threats; and

16 WHEREAS, The Guard continues to improve the lives of Washington's  
17 young adults, many on the brink of dropping out of school, through  
18 its Washington Youth Academy; and

19 WHEREAS, The Guard adds value to communities by opening its  
20 Readiness Centers for community and youth activities, and uses these  
21 facilities to enhance education, add to quality of life, and increase  
22 economic vitality; and

1           WHEREAS, Washington National Guard soldiers and airmen and  
2           airwomen continue to provide critical support to federal  
3           missions around the world and are willing to make the ultimate  
4           sacrifice to protect our freedoms and enhance our safety,  
5           including Sergeant First Class Matthew McClintock, who leaves  
6           behind a young wife and infant son after he was killed in action  
7           in Afghanistan earlier this year;

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

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

21          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
22          immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to The  
23          Adjutant General of the Washington National Guard, the Governor  
24          of the State of Washington, the Secretaries of the United States  
25          Army and Air Force, and the President of the United States.

26          I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,  
27          do hereby certify that this is a true and  
28          correct copy of Senate Resolution 8703,  
29          adopted by the Senate  
30          February 4, 2016

31          HUNTER G. GOODMAN  
32          Secretary of the Senate