

SENATE RESOLUTION

8733

By Senators Dammeier, O'Ban, Becker, Conway, Hasegawa, and Hobbs

1 WHEREAS, There is nothing on the planet quite as wonderful as a
2 black and white panda; and

3 WHEREAS, Securing pandas for Washington is an extraordinary
4 diplomatic undertaking fostering a growing positive business and
5 cultural exchange with the People's Republic of China; and

6 WHEREAS, An exhibit of pandas will bring people and resources to
7 Washington state, as well as smiles to the faces of everyone who
8 encounters them; and

9 WHEREAS, Pandas would symbolize the long-standing friendship and
10 warm trade relations between Washington state, the Sichuan Province,
11 and all of the People's Republic of China; and

12 WHEREAS, This connection would showcase our business
13 partnerships, promote natural science, and expand our friendship; and

14 WHEREAS, The Washington State Panda Foundation was formed under
15 the leadership of former Governor John Spellman, who initiated a
16 close friendship with the Sichuan Province in 1982 to explore and
17 advance the possibility of bringing pandas to Washington state; and

18 WHEREAS, Many state and national leaders have confirmed their
19 support of the Washington State Panda Foundation's efforts with the
20 People's Republic of China to advance the goal of Washington state
21 becoming the fifth United States location to host pandas; and

22 WHEREAS, In November of 2015, President Xi Jinping wrote a letter
23 to his friends in the Washington State Legislature confirming the

1 People's Republic of China's commitment to strengthen its exchanges
2 and cooperation with Washington state in all fields; and

3 WHEREAS, President Xi Jinping instructed officials in the
4 People's Republic of China to carry out relevant studies regarding
5 exporting pandas to Washington state; and

6 WHEREAS, The State Forestry Administration of China stands ready
7 to engage in the technical exchanges needed to create the right
8 conditions for this endeavor;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
10 strongly support the efforts of the Washington State Panda
11 Foundation, the Woodland Park Zoo, the Point Defiance Zoo, our state
12 government, and the People's Republic of China to bring pandas to
13 Washington State; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
15 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the office
16 of the Washington State Panda Foundation.

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