

SENATE RESOLUTION

8736

By Senators Hill, Braun, Hewitt, Hargrove, Conway, Fraser, Hobbs, and Dammeier

1 WHEREAS, It has been the tradition of the Washington State Senate
2 to honor significant and important contributions made by employees;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Steve Jones began his illustrious and lengthy career
5 with the Washington State Legislature in 1976 when he started with
6 the Code Reviser's Office; and

7 WHEREAS, One of the very first pieces of legislation Steve worked
8 on as a member of the Code Reviser's staff was the bill to close the
9 PERS 1 pension system, and despite repeated investigations there is
10 no evidence that he conspired to set the termination date for PERS 1
11 after his initial date of employment with the state of Washington;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Having secured a plan 1 retirement Steve turned his
14 attention to the state budgets and retained his grip on the state's
15 omnibus operating appropriations act for 37 years; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition to being recognized as one of the most
17 knowledgeable and accomplished institutional historians of the
18 Senate, Steve also happily serves as a conduit of the latest juicy
19 gossip traveling through the marbled halls of the state capitol; and

20 WHEREAS, Steve from his days as an undergraduate student at
21 Occidental College has a surprising and almost obsessive knowledge of
22 Original Tommy's chiliburgers in Los Angeles as well as the collected
23 works of avant garde jazz composer and bandleader Don Ellis; and

1 WHEREAS, Steve has remained on the cutting edge of fashion
2 by wearing a bow tie more than any Senate staffer (including the
3 late Sid Snyder) since the 1940's; and

4 WHEREAS, Steve for four decades has mastered the rare art of
5 telling lawmakers in the most polite and humorous way possible
6 "Yes, Senator, that is an excellent and innovative idea apart
7 from the slight problem that it is blatantly unconstitutional";
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Steve owns the distinction of the shortest kayaking
10 trip to Glacier Bay in Alaska where on just the second day a
11 grizzly bear destroyed their campsite and even the illegal
12 firearm his friend illegally brought into the National Park was
13 not able to distract the bear from ransacking their supplies;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Steve is an avid cyclist and regular spectator at
16 the annual Tour de France and was able to finance college
17 educations for both of his children by smuggling cycling
18 memorabilia and souvenirs out of the country and reselling the
19 items on Ebay; and

20 WHEREAS, Despite being an accomplished hiker and mountain
21 climber as well as a friend of famed mountaineer Fred Beckey,
22 Steve managed to become lost on a backpacking and climbing trip
23 in the North Cascades, spending the night in a creek bed and
24 worrying family and friends until he was rescued somewhere near
25 Stehekin on the north end of Lake Chelan; and

26 WHEREAS, Over his career Steve has worked with the following
27 Ways and Means Chairs -- Senators McDonald, Rinehart, West,
28 Loveland, Brown, Rossi, Zarelli, Prentice, Murray, and Hill; any
29 of whom could truly serve as the answer to the Sesame Street
30 song "One of these things is not like the others"; and

31 WHEREAS, During his 28 years working for the Washington
32 State Senate, Steve is recognized as one of the highest
33 respected legal minds, helping countless Senators achieve their
34 public policy goals; and

35 WHEREAS, The many, many friends he has made during these
36 years in public service will miss him mightily as he is often
37 referred to as the "glue which holds the Senate together," but
38 wish him all the best on his well-deserved retirement;

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
2 Senate give Steve a heartfelt thanks for his years of service
3 and wish him and Kris many days of travel, family, and friends;
4 and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
6 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Steve
7 Jones.

8 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
9 do hereby certify that this is a true and
10 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8736,
11 adopted by the Senate
12 March 9, 2016

13 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
14 Secretary of the Senate