

SENATE RESOLUTION

8606

By Senator Becker

1 WHEREAS, The first creamery in Washington was started in Cheney
2 in 1880; and

3 WHEREAS, Washington's dairy industry is actually older than the
4 state itself; and

5 WHEREAS, Families across Washington have depended on the safe and
6 nutritious dairy products provided by the dairy farmers of Washington
7 state for generations; and

8 WHEREAS, Dairy is an essential part of a healthy diet, one of the
9 major food groups represented on the USDA's "MyPlate" dietary
10 guidelines, and three cups of dairy products a day are recommended
11 for people ages nine years and older; and

12 WHEREAS, There are approximately four hundred twenty family dairy
13 farms in Washington state with approximately two hundred seventy-
14 seven thousand dairy cows; and

15 WHEREAS, Dairy foods constitute the second highest dollar-valued
16 agricultural commodity produced in Washington, with a direct economic
17 impact valued at 2.3 billion dollars and a total value to
18 Washington's economy of more than 5.2 billion dollars; and

19 WHEREAS, There are over six thousand one hundred eighty-four on-
20 farm dairy jobs in twenty-nine counties across Washington, and over
21 twelve thousand one hundred fifty-nine jobs in the dairy industry in
22 total; and

1 WHEREAS, Our state's milk production ranked second in dollar
2 value among all of Washington's bountiful agricultural
3 commodities; and

4 WHEREAS, Washington's dairy cows are some of the most
5 productive in the United States, averaging more than one
6 thousand four hundred fifty-five pounds of milk per cow above
7 the national average; and

8 WHEREAS, Washington ranks sixth in milk production per cow,
9 with twenty-three thousand eight hundred forty-eight pounds of
10 milk per year; and

11 WHEREAS, Dairy Day at the legislature takes place on January
12 24, 2017, when legislators will visit with Washington dairy
13 producers and enjoy delicious dairy products produced in
14 Washington; handed out by the Washington State Dairy Federation,
15 Washington State Dairy Women, and the state and county Dairy
16 Ambassadors;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
18 Senate acknowledge and honor the women and men whose work on
19 dairy farms throughout Washington has contributed much to the
20 strength and vitality of our economy, the character of our
21 communities, and the general well-being of our citizens; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
23 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to
24 Washington State Dairy Ambassador Alicia Smaciarz, alternate
25 Ambassadors Jana Plagerman and Tiana Peterson, and the
26 Washington State Dairy Federation.

27 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
28 do hereby certify that this is a true and
29 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8606,
30 adopted by the Senate
31 January 24, 2017

32 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
33 Secretary of the Senate