

SENATE RESOLUTION

8640

By Senator Pearson

1           WHEREAS, Mayor Donnetta Walser was a pillar of the Monroe  
2 community; an exemplary public servant; and a beloved educator, wife,  
3 mother, and grandmother; and

4           WHEREAS, Mayor Walser spent 28 years as a public school teacher;  
5 she taught for 1 year in Morton, Washington, before moving to Monroe  
6 where she taught for the next 27 years; and

7           WHEREAS, Mayor Walser led a grant-funded program at Monroe Middle  
8 School that catered to kids struggling with attendance or failing  
9 grades; and regardless of their struggles, Mayor Walser would always  
10 remind her kids that they were gifted; and

11           WHEREAS, Mayor Walser was always proud of the success of her  
12 students; and she cherished the phone calls from past pupils  
13 expressing their thanks for her hard work and influence; and

14           WHEREAS, During their schooling, many citizens of Washington are  
15 inspired by a special teacher, and for many students in Monroe, Mayor  
16 Walser was that teacher; and

17           WHEREAS, Mayor Walser was not content to retire after nearly 30  
18 years as a teacher, and instead, demonstrated her deep commitment to  
19 her community by running for office; and

20           WHEREAS, Once on the Monroe City Council, Mayor Walser poured  
21 herself into the work, and approached her position as a full-time  
22 job; and

1           WHEREAS, Mayor Walser's 32 years in local politics included  
2 years on the Monroe City Council, the Monroe Civil Service  
3 Commission, the U.S. 2 Safety Coalition, the Snohomish County  
4 League of Women Voters, the Snohomish County Senior Services'  
5 Board of Directors, and two terms as the Mayor of Monroe; few  
6 citizens of any state can proudly claim such a diverse  
7 background of hard work, family life, and political engagement;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, Mayor Walser's graceful demeanor and formidable  
10 devotion to her community served her well on the otherwise all-  
11 male Monroe City Council; she was known for her ability to build  
12 compromise and work long nights at council meetings that  
13 sometimes stretched into morning; and even after meetings that  
14 lasted until 2:00 a.m., she would return home to work a little  
15 longer and correct students' papers; and

16           WHEREAS, Mayor Walser passed on December 22, 2016,  
17 surrounded by her family; and

18           WHEREAS, Mayor Walser leaves behind her loving husband of 45  
19 years, Fred; her sons and daughters-in-law, Scott and Stacey and  
20 Matt and Kimberly, respectively; her grandchildren, Morgan and  
21 Nathan, born of Matt and Kimberly; her brother, Gordon  
22 Halverson; niece, Candace Burnikel, and nephew, Rod Stevens;

23           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State  
24 Senate honor Mayor Donnetta Walser, and recognize her years of  
25 exemplary public service, dedication to the education of young  
26 people, unwavering commitment to community development, and love  
27 for her family and the people she served.

28 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,  
29 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
30 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8640,  
31 adopted by the Senate  
32 March 28, 2017

33 HUNTER G. GOODMAN  
34 Secretary of the Senate