

SENATE RESOLUTION

8646

By Senators Hunt, Becker, Rolfes, Darneille, Conway, Angel, O'Ban, Zeiger, and Sheldon

1 WHEREAS, Project Linus is a national organization that provides  
2 new, handmade blankets to seriously ill and traumatized children; and

3 WHEREAS, These blankets bring a sense of security, warmth, and  
4 comfort to children in need, and are lovingly created by volunteer  
5 "blanketeers"; and

6 WHEREAS, Project Linus was founded by Karen Louks, on Christmas  
7 Eve 1995, when she read about a three-year old with leukemia whose  
8 special "blankie" helped comfort her in the hospital during intensive  
9 chemotherapy; and

10 WHEREAS, The article inspired Karen to provide homemade security  
11 blankets to a children's cancer center in her community; and

12 WHEREAS, Project Linus has grown to nearly 400 chapters across 50  
13 states; and

14 WHEREAS, Local chapters collect blankets and organize several  
15 blanket-making events throughout the year to be distributed to  
16 children in hospitals, shelters, social service agencies, or anywhere  
17 that a child might be in need; and

18 WHEREAS, National Make a Blanket Day was started in 1999 after  
19 the tragedy at Columbine High School when national chapters came to  
20 the rescue, holding "blanket bees" all over the country and sending  
21 those blankets to local chapters in Denver, Colorado; and

1           WHEREAS, National Make a Blanket Day is designated as the  
2 third Saturday in February and is attributed to the collection  
3 of 75,000 to 100,000 blankets; and

4           WHEREAS, Since its founding, Project Linus has collected  
5 over 6 million blankets nationwide; and

6           WHEREAS, The Pierce, Thurston, Kitsap, & Mason counties  
7 chapter of Project Linus, one of eleven chapters in Washington  
8 State, has collected 3,507 blankets and distributed 3,081  
9 blankets since it was established in April 2014; and

10           WHEREAS, The immense success of this organization is  
11 dependent on the generous volunteer spirit of thousands of  
12 blanketeers and staff;

13           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State  
14 Senate honor the participants of Project Linus locally and  
15 nationwide and express appreciation for their service; and

16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
17 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the  
18 Board of Directors and National President of Project Linus, and  
19 to the Pierce, Thurston, Kitsap, & Mason counties Chapter  
20 Coordinator.

21 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,  
22 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
23 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8646,  
24 adopted by the Senate  
25 April 19, 2017

26 HUNTER G. GOODMAN  
27 Secretary of the Senate