

SENATE RESOLUTION

8602

By Senators Kuderer, Wellman, Hunt, Rolfes, Wilson, C., Takko, Palumbo, Keiser, Nguyen, Randall, Darneille, Das, Cleveland, Frockt, Mullet, Pedersen, Hobbs, Sheldon, Carlyle, McCoy, Billig, King, Liias, Van De Wege, Conway, and Salomon

1 WHEREAS, Women In Cloud is a community-led initiative supporting
2 female technology entrepreneurs; and

3 WHEREAS, Women In Cloud creates access to partnership
4 opportunities, programs that accelerate business growth in the cloud,
5 and strategic alliances that advance the success of women in tech;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Women In Cloud celebrates female entrepreneurs in the
8 tech world and empowers women in Washington and beyond, helping them
9 to realize their potential and reach new growth through leading
10 industry, community, and government partners; and

11 WHEREAS, Only five percent of leadership positions in the
12 technology industry are held by women and more than two-thirds of US
13 start-ups have no women at all on their board of directors; and

14 WHEREAS, According to a new World Economic Forum report, the
15 global gender gap will take one hundred years to close at the current
16 rate of change; and

17 WHEREAS, Women In Cloud is building a global plan to create
18 access in enabling one billion dollars in economic opportunities in
19 alignment with United Nations Sustainable Goal #5, to achieve gender
20 equality and empower all women and girls and United Nations
21 Sustainable Goal #12, to ensure sustainable consumption and
22 production patterns; and

1 WHEREAS, Kauffman Foundation research shows that tech
2 companies led by women achieve a thirty-five percent higher
3 return on investment than firms led by men; and

4 WHEREAS, Forbes found that women tech entrepreneurs, despite
5 having received fifty percent less venture capital funding,
6 produce twenty percent higher revenues than their male
7 equivalent; and

8 WHEREAS, Fortune found that female founders received two
9 percent of all venture capital funding; and

10 WHEREAS, The underrepresentation of women in technology
11 leadership harms technological development and societal and
12 economic growth, and is unacceptable in the 21st century;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
14 Senate recognize the value of this initiative to inspire,
15 empower, and accelerate the growth of women-led technology
16 companies and promote the efforts of women entrepreneurs and
17 leaders; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
19 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
20 Women In Cloud Annual Summit 2019, to be held in Redmond,
21 Washington on January 26, 2019.

22 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,
23 do hereby certify that this is a true and
24 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8602,
25 adopted by the Senate
26 January 23, 2019

27 BRAD HENDRICKSON
28 Secretary of the Senate