

SENATE RESOLUTION

8646

By Senators Liiias, King, Rolfes, Wellman, Das, Saldaña, Randall, Short, Warnick, Becker, Walsh, Brown, and Holy

1 WHEREAS, Luis Fernando Esteban has distinguished himself during
2 the past twenty-five years as the Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of
3 Spain in the state of Washington; and

4 WHEREAS, This silver anniversary represents a long and
5 distinguished record of important bilateral, educational, cultural,
6 historical, and economic development programs and projects that have
7 positively affected business development and the lives of
8 Washingtonians and the people of Spain; and

9 WHEREAS, Over 250,000 students have directly benefited from the
10 Spanish and bilingual language development, student and faculty
11 exchanges, and cultural projects and programs with Spain's leading
12 institutions; and

13 WHEREAS, Consul Luis Fernando Esteban has created an impressive
14 legacy of cultural, art, and educational development that includes
15 the implementation of the world famous Cervantes Institute at the
16 University of Washington, the University of Washington Center for
17 Spanish Studies, the University of Washington Leon Center, the
18 Central Washington University Game On! STEM program for migrant
19 farmworker students, a viticulture exchange program with Washington
20 State University, the Embassy of Spain's student ambassador program,
21 the Picasso and Miro Masters art exhibitions at Seattle and Tacoma
22 Art Museums, the construction of the historic Fort Nunez Gaona
23 monument on the Makah Reservation, the Seattle Sephardic Network, an

1 annual Casa Patas Flamenco state tour, and over 1,200 professional
2 Spanish music and film events; and

3 WHEREAS, Consul Luis Fernando Esteban has also created a
4 sustainable diplomatic bridge by conducting thirty-two separate
5 legislative, educational, and business trade missions to Spain,
6 including most recently a 2018 mission led by Lieutenant Governor
7 Cyrus Habib that included a bipartisan delegation of senators; and

8 WHEREAS, In his twenty-five years of service, Consul Luis
9 Fernando Esteban has facilitated significant Spanish business
10 investment in Washington state, forging relationships between major
11 Spanish companies and investors and over 45 companies in every corner
12 of Washington; and

13 WHEREAS, Consul Luis Fernando Esteban has presided over the
14 knighting of distinguished Washingtonians including the Honorable
15 Brad Owen, the Honorable Ralph Munro, Bill Gates Sr., Mimi Gates,
16 Mike Bezos, Orlando Ayala, and Dr. Antonio Sanchez by His Majesty the
17 King of Spain; and

18 WHEREAS, Consul Luis Fernando Esteban and his consular office
19 have identified the historical and cultural roots of Spain, which
20 have been firmly established here since 1774, representing our
21 state's oldest European contact with Washington state;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize
23 Honorary Consul Luis Fernando Esteban for twenty-five years of
24 faithful service to the people of Washington and the Kingdom of Spain
25 and celebrate his commitment to forging stronger bonds of friendship
26 between our people, governments, businesses, and institutions; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
28 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Honorary
29 Consul Luis Fernando Esteban, His Excellency Ambassador Ramón Gil-
30 Casares Satrústegui of the Kingdom of Spain, and His Excellency Josep
31 Borrell, the Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Spain.

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