

SENATE RESOLUTION

8615

By Senators Warnick, Holy, Honeyford, Nobles, Hasegawa, and Wilson, L.

1       WHEREAS, In June of this year, James L. Gaudino will conclude  
2 twelve and a half very successful years of service to the state as  
3 president of Central Washington University; and

4       WHEREAS, President Gaudino's leadership has been instrumental in  
5 overcoming some of the most challenging times of the 129-year history  
6 of CWU; and

7       WHEREAS, During the Great Recession President Gaudino's budget  
8 management avoided mass layoffs and actually increased financial  
9 stability of the university; and

10       WHEREAS, He led the modernization and digitization of 14 business  
11 processes, from procurement to human resources, reducing the time and  
12 cost of administrative processes; and

13       WHEREAS, His intense focus on creating a welcoming and inclusive  
14 campus climate has resulted in CWU being the most diverse public  
15 university in the state, and the only university to earn the Higher  
16 Education Excellence in Diversity award in six of the past seven  
17 years; and

18       WHEREAS, The overhaul of campus technology and data-management  
19 systems has given CWU the ability to better inform planning and  
20 decisions; and

21       WHEREAS, President Gaudino has modernized budget and management  
22 processes, and shifted the planning horizon from one to six years in

1 order to ensure sustainable and accountable university  
2 management; and

3 WHEREAS, His modernization of enrollment management allowed  
4 CWU to recover from Great Recession enrollment drops and become  
5 one of the fastest growing institutions in the country; and

6 WHEREAS, He has expanded educational opportunities by  
7 launching online degree programs and establishing instructional  
8 sites in Sammamish and at Joint Base Lewis-McChord; and

9 WHEREAS, President Gaudino's insistence on science-informed  
10 pandemic strategies and close partnerships with local public  
11 health officials created a safe, low-transmission learning  
12 environment and has resulted in no serious illnesses to date  
13 from COVID;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the members of the  
15 Washington State Senate extend to Dr. James L. Gaudino their  
16 sincere thanks for his service to the people of Washington and  
17 his work to expand educational opportunities for the citizens of  
18 our state; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
20 transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Dr. James L.  
21 Gaudino and the Board of Trustees of Central Washington  
22 University.

23 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,  
24 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
25 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8615,  
26 adopted by the Senate  
27 March 24, 2021

28 BRAD HENDRICKSON  
29 Secretary of the Senate