

SENATE RESOLUTION

8637

By Senator Kuderer

1 WHEREAS, Women in Cloud is a woman-led, grassroots economic
2 development organization founded in Seattle, Washington working to
3 generate one billion dollars in new economic access for women-led
4 technology entrepreneurs across the globe by 2030; and

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

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

11 WHEREAS, The technology sector has proven invaluable during the
12 COVID-19 pandemic, giving many employers the ability to continue
13 operations with employees working from their homes while the public
14 health crisis continues; and

15 WHEREAS, As economic relief efforts for small businesses continue
16 during and after the pandemic, it is important for such relief
17 efforts to be carried out in an equitable manner; and

18 WHEREAS, The underrepresentation of women in technology
19 leadership harms technological development and societal and economic
20 growth, and is unacceptable in the 21st century; and

21 WHEREAS, The Women in Cloud organization plays a vital role in
22 the ongoing economic recovery period working to ensure women-owned
23 enterprises continue to survive and thrive post pandemic; and

1 WHEREAS, The Women in Cloud Accelerator Program provides
2 resources, consultation, networking connections, and global platforms
3 for women-led tech companies; and

4 WHEREAS, The Women in Cloud Universal Digital Upskilling and
5 ReSkilling Program provides over 1000 cloud skilling scholarships,
6 resources, networking connections, and global platforms for women
7 professionals to access economically-fulfilling jobs; and

8 WHEREAS, The Women in Cloud #empowHERaccess digital advocacy
9 campaign provides industry focused research, resources, networking
10 connections and spotlights women leaders and allies to advance policy
11 for economic and workforce development for women founders and
12 professionals; and

13 WHEREAS, The Women in Cloud Annual Conference has seen tremendous
14 growth in popularity in just three years with its inaugural
15 conference hosting 450 participants, to an expected global attendance
16 of more than 1,500 for this year's conference; and

17 WHEREAS, Through the creation of new partnerships in regions
18 beyond the Pacific Northwest, Women in Cloud has expanded their
19 accelerator program to eight other countries around the world; and

20 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature encourages other
21 legislatures across the nation and governing bodies in other
22 countries to partner with Women in Cloud to ensure women-led
23 technology firms have equitable access to economic opportunity for
24 generations to come;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
26 recognize the value of this initiative to inspire, empower, and
27 accelerate the growth of women-led technology companies and promote
28 the efforts of women entrepreneurs and leaders; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
30 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Women
31 in Cloud Digital Summit 2022, to be held virtually on January 26
32 through 28, 2022.

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