

SENATE RESOLUTION

8613

By Senators Nobles, Billig, Boehnke, Braun, Cleveland, Conway, Dhingra, Dozier, Fortunato, Frame, Gildon, Hasegawa, Hawkins, Holy, Hunt, Kauffman, Keiser, King, Kuderer, Lias, Lovelett, Lovick, MacEwen, McCune, Mullet, Muzzall, Nguyen, Padden, Pedersen, Randall, Rivers, Robinson, Rolfes, Saldaña, Salomon, Schoesler, Shewmake, Short, Stanford, Torres, Trudeau, Valdez, Van De Wege, Wagoner, Warnick, Wellman, C. Wilson, J. Wilson, and L. Wilson

1 WHEREAS, More than eight thousand men and women of the Washington  
2 National Guard continue to serve the country as guardians of American  
3 interests at home and abroad; and

4 WHEREAS, These recognized leaders in state, regional, and  
5 national preparedness, who reside in nearly every legislative  
6 district throughout Washington, volunteer their time and put personal  
7 lives aside when the needs of the people of Washington state arise;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The Guard always answers the state's call in response to  
10 all emergency efforts such as natural disasters to protect lives,  
11 essential infrastructure, and property; and

12 WHEREAS, For more than 18 months one thousand two hundred service  
13 members from the Washington National Guard supported state agencies,  
14 local jurisdictions, tribes, and nonprofit organizations in  
15 responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in order to save lives and  
16 relieve human suffering; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2022 the Guard deployed to Lewis County to provide  
18 support to the communities dealing with rising waters, and just a  
19 week later deployed to Leavenworth to assist digging out the small  
20 mountain community that was hit with record snow fall; and

21 WHEREAS, The Guard continues to train for adaptation, capability,  
22 and capacity to react to the rising challenges in a rapidly changing

1 world that poses a threat to United States national security at  
2 home and abroad, including cyber threats; and

3 WHEREAS, Washington National Guard soldiers and airmen  
4 continue to provide critical support for federal missions with  
5 members deployed to Poland, Germany, the Kingdom of Thailand,  
6 and Malaysia; and

7 WHEREAS, The Guard continues to improve the lives of  
8 Washington's young adults, many on the brink of dropping out of  
9 school, through its Washington Youth Academy; and

10 WHEREAS, The Guard adds value to communities by opening its  
11 Readiness Centers for community and youth activities, and uses  
12 these facilities to enhance education, add to quality of life,  
13 and increase economic vitality;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington state  
15 Senate express its thanks and appreciation to the devoted  
16 families and dedicated employers of our Washington National  
17 Guard soldiers and airmen and airwomen for their support,  
18 without whom the Guard's missions could not be successful; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the value  
20 and dedication of a strong Washington National Guard to the  
21 viability, economy, safety, security, and well-being of this  
22 state, both through the outstanding performance of its state  
23 emergency and disaster relief mission, and through the continued  
24 benefit to local communities by the presence of productively  
25 employed, drug-free, well-equipped, and trained Guard units and  
26 the readiness centers and armories that house them; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
28 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the  
29 Adjutant General of the Washington National Guard, the Governor  
30 of the state of Washington, the Secretaries of the United States  
31 Army and Air Force, and the President of the United States.

32 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
33 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
34 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8613,  
35 adopted by the Senate  
36 February 1, 2023

- 1 SARAH BANNISTER
- 2 Secretary of the Senate