

SENATE RESOLUTION

8625

By Senators Kauffman, Randall, Lias, Keiser, Rolfes, C. Wilson, Nobles, Trudeau, Hunt, Dhingra, Shewmake, Torres, Boehnke, Nguyen, Stanford, Valdez, Van De Wege, Lovick, Salomon, Braun, Billig, Cleveland, Conway, Hasegawa, Holy, Kuderer, Lovelett, Padden, Pedersen, Rivers, Saldaña, Short, Wagoner, Warnick, Wellman, and L. Wilson

1       WHEREAS, The Special Olympics is the world's largest sports  
2 organization for children and adults with intellectual and physical  
3 disabilities, providing year-round training and activities to more  
4 than 3.7 million participants and Unified Sports partners in the  
5 United States and 200 other countries and jurisdictions; and

6       WHEREAS, The Special Olympics is a global movement of people  
7 creating a new world of inclusion and community, where every single  
8 person is accepted and welcomed, regardless of ability or disability;  
9 and

10       WHEREAS, Ninety-eight Washingtonians participated and competed in  
11 the 2022 Special Olympics in Orlando, Florida, as either an Athlete,  
12 Unified Partner, Coach, or Staff; and

13       WHEREAS, Among the 98 participating Washingtonians, 65 Athletes,  
14 Unified Partners, and Coaches received gold, silver, and bronze  
15 medals in their respective competitions; and

16       WHEREAS, The following teams won medals in their respective  
17 competitions, including Competitive Cheer, Bronze Medal; Flag  
18 Football, Silver Medal; and Volleyball, Gold Medal; and

19       WHEREAS, The Bronze medal-winning Competitive Cheer's Athletes,  
20 Coaches, and Unified Partners are Athletes TyAnna Brandtly, Samantha  
21 Elliott, Anna Stults, Courtney Thom, and MacKenzie Wilkes; Unified  
22 Partners Brittany Chiasson, Christina Evenhuis, Naya Hart, Kialie

1 Pogoncheff, and Emily Wright; and Coaches Karen Elliott and  
2 Genia Stewart; and

3 WHEREAS, The Silver medal-winning Soccer team's Athletes and  
4 Coaches are Athletes Joel Adams, Gina Boyle, Jimmie Hutchins,  
5 Jocelyn Iwaniec, Seth Landers-Printy, Christopher Lyman, Domanic  
6 Morrow, Eamonn Rosenberg, Justin Villareal, and Todd Weathers;  
7 and Coaches Caitlin Walker-Collins, and Gregory Weathers; and

8 WHEREAS, The Silver medal-winning Flag Football's Athletes,  
9 Unified Partners, and Coaches are Athletes Turrean Hatzenbeler,  
10 Brayden Kelly, Benjamin Kennish, Austin Landon, and Ronnie  
11 Papka; Unified Partners Jagateshwar Bains, Jasmair Bains, Nolan  
12 Springer, William Suastegui-Perez, and Jordan Tveter; and  
13 Coaches Nick Asby, Gregory Kelly, and Donna Lindsay; and

14 WHEREAS, The Gold medal-winning Volleyball team's Athletes  
15 and Coaches are Athletes Grant Brickbealer, Daniel Brito, Stacey  
16 Conser, Kevin Geoghegan, Nicholas Hollands, Marcus Moore, Skyler  
17 Poor, Nicholas Rothbauer, Larry Simpson, and Gable Wilkins; and  
18 Coaches Lucy Capron, Kenneth Randy Geoghegan, and Alysanne  
19 Stack; and

20 WHEREAS, The individual medal-winning athletes are Benjamin  
21 Gregory, Gold medal, Athletics; Danielle Haag and Craig Lockard,  
22 Bronze medals, Athletics; Crystal Womack, Gold and Silver  
23 medals, Bocce; Jacqueline Diaz, two Silver medals, Bocce; Ian  
24 Dews, Bronze medal, Bocce; Grace Van Well, Gold medal, Swimming;  
25 Jake Moselle, Silver medal, Swimming; Truman Hobbs and Melissa  
26 Sprague, Bronze medals, Swimming; Alice Ness, Silver medal,  
27 Bowling; Elizabeth Bedell, Silver medal, Bowling; Peter Condon,  
28 Bronze medal, Golf; and Doug McPherson, four Bronze medals,  
29 Powerlifting;

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State  
31 Senate honor these extraordinary and courageous Athletes and  
32 their dedicated Coaches and Unified Partners for participating  
33 in the 2022 Special Olympics and winning medals in their  
34 respective competitions and events; and

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coaches, Unified Partners,  
36 Athletes' families, and the Special Olympics Washington Board of  
37 Directors and staff be applauded for their time, dedication, and  
38 expertise in preparing these athletes for their successes both

1 on and off the field and empowering them to pursue their dreams,  
2 as well as the countless fans across Washington who cheered on  
3 the delegation for their support; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
5 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to  
6 Special Olympics Washington.

7 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
8 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
9 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8625,  
10 adopted by the Senate  
11 April 7, 2023

12 SARAH BANNISTER  
13 Secretary of the Senate