

SENATE RESOLUTION

8653

By Senators Kuderer, Kauffman, Hasegawa, Nobles, Lovelett, and Wellman

1 WHEREAS, The Washington State Senate recognize Spokane-born Danny  
2 O'Keefe, for all his musical accomplishments, along with his  
3 environmental and cultural activism; and

4 WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe has had a long-lasting career of over 50  
5 years in both music and advocacy; and

6 WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe has collaborated with numerous other  
7 musicians, such as writing "Well, Well, Well" with Bob Dylan; and

8 WHEREAS, His song "Good Time Charlie's Got the Blues" reached the  
9 top 10 songs on multiple US charts in 1972 and has sold over a  
10 million copies; and

11 WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe has inspired other musicians to record and  
12 share versions of his songs, such as Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis,  
13 Judy Collins, Willie Nelson, and Andy Williams; and

14 WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe uses his platform to raise awareness on  
15 issues outside of music, having founded the Songbird Foundation, an  
16 organization that advocated for songbird species and their habitat  
17 loss; and

18 WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe continues to perform at numerous benefit  
19 concerts for communities in Washington State; and

20 WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe named his album *Looking Glass & The*  
21 *Dreamers* after the renowned strategist and Nez Perce leader Chief  
22 Looking Glass; and

1           WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe has researched, read about, learned  
2 from, and met with the Nez Perce Tribe to gain invaluable  
3 knowledge of their culture and history; and

4           WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe learned of the Nez Perce Tribe's  
5 plight in the early colonial United States and the significance  
6 colonialism had on their lands and their freedoms; and

7           WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe has used his music to educate others  
8 on the history of the Nez Perce Tribe as one of the original  
9 stewards of the Northwest; and

10          WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe's music and collaboration with  
11 Indigenous artists has led to renewed calls for solidarity; and

12          WHEREAS, Danny O'Keefe celebrated his 80th birthday last  
13 May;

14          NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State  
15 Senate honor Danny O'Keefe for his numerous accomplishments and  
16 contributions to Washington State as a changemaker.

17 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
18 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
19 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8653,  
20 adopted by the Senate  
21 January 18, 2024

22 SARAH BANNISTER  
23 Secretary of the Senate