

SENATE RESOLUTION

8661

By Senators Randall, Conway, Kuderer, Stanford, and Wagoner

1 WHEREAS, More than 8,000 men and women of the Washington National
2 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, 1,200 service members from the
13 Washington National Guard supported state agencies, local
14 jurisdictions, tribes, and nonprofit organizations in responding to
15 the COVID-19 pandemic in order to save lives and relieve human
16 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 pose a threat to United States national security at
2 home and abroad, including cyber threats; and

3 WHEREAS, Washington National Guard soldiers and airmen and
4 airwomen continue to provide critical support for federal
5 missions with members deployed to Jordan, Poland, Germany, the
6 Kingdom of Thailand, 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 Challenge 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 8661,
35 adopted by the Senate
36 January 24, 2024

- 1 SARAH BANNISTER
- 2 Secretary of the Senate