

SENATE RESOLUTION

8663

By Senators Dhingra, Stanford, Nobles, Salomon, Wagoner, Cleveland, Hunt, Lovick, J. Wilson, C. Wilson, Warnick, Valdez, Wellman, Lovelett, Braun, Torres, and Hasegawa

1 WHEREAS, January 26, 2024, marks the 75th Republic Day in India,
2 commemorating the effective adoption of the Constitution of the
3 world's largest democracy; and

4 WHEREAS, India solidified their achievement of independence from
5 British rule through peaceful and nonviolent resistance; and

6 WHEREAS, India's Constitution requires equality under the law,
7 and declares "that the State shall not deny to any person equality
8 before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the
9 territory of India"; and

10 WHEREAS, India has a strong tradition of maintaining democratic
11 ideals through robust checks on those in power; and

12 WHEREAS, Washington state has many cultural and economic ties to
13 India, including more than 100,000 Indian Americans living in the
14 state; and

15 WHEREAS, Indian Americans are small business owners,
16 entrepreneurs, and CEOs of Washington companies, including the
17 founding officers of many Washington-based tech companies; and

18 WHEREAS, These businesses provide useful services, resources, and
19 jobs to the people of this state; and

20 WHEREAS, Indian Americans have been emigrating to the West Coast
21 since the 19th century, working in our most vital industries
22 including agriculture, lodging, and trade; and

1 WHEREAS, Indian Americans reflect the values of inclusion and
2 pluralism through their many cultural and religious identities,
3 including Muslim, Sikh, and Hindu; and
4 WHEREAS, Indian Americans serve selflessly in our armed forces
5 and in law enforcement, and contribute profoundly to the health care
6 industry and Washington's institutions of higher education;
7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
8 honor the 2024 Republic Day of India as a symbol of the shared values
9 of democracy, diversity, and inclusion between the nation of India
10 and both the State of Washington and the United States of America.

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