

SENATE RESOLUTION

8680

By Senators Padden, Lovick, King, Short, Boehnke, Wagoner, Dozier, Warnick, Braun,
and Torres

1 WHEREAS, In Washington state we have no shortage of outstanding
2 women leaders whose dedication and participation in our political
3 process has brought us a brighter and more hopeful Washington; and

4 WHEREAS, Linda Smith was born in LaJunta, Colorado, in 1950 and
5 moved with her family to White Salmon, Washington; and

6 WHEREAS She graduated from Fort Vancouver High School; and

7 WHEREAS, She and her husband owned and managed a group of tax
8 preparation offices in southern Washington; and

9 WHEREAS, She was elected to the Washington state House of
10 Representatives in a special election in 1983; and

11 WHEREAS, Linda was elected to the Washington State Senate in 1987
12 giving her party the majority in the state senate where her work
13 included sponsoring legislation promoting children, families, the
14 elderly, and agriculture; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1992 and 1993 she was a successful proponent of
16 Washington Initiative Measure No. 601 and Washington Initiative
17 Measure No. 134; and

18 WHEREAS, I-601 successfully limited state expenditures by
19 inflation rate and population growth for years and I-134 instituted
20 regulations and accountability for political contributions and
21 campaign expenditures; and

22 WHEREAS, She was sued over I-601 and she raised the money to
23 defend it and won at the state Supreme Court; and

1 WHEREAS, She was known for getting things done because she would
2 never bargain away principles when she got behind a cause; and
3 WHEREAS, She was elected to the United States Congress in the
4 general election of 1994 after perhaps the first successful
5 congressional primary write-in campaign in United States history; and
6 WHEREAS, She represented Washington's 3rd Congressional District
7 where she served for two terms leading on issues like her "Clean Up
8 Congress Act" to implement campaign finance reform, she led a
9 bipartisan effort to defeat the historic influence tobacco had in
10 Congress, she ended the practice of congressional leaders passing out
11 special interest PAC checks on the floor of Congress, pushing for a
12 balanced budget amendment, bringing reason to the Endangered Species
13 Act, she chaired the Small Business committee on small business
14 taxation, relentlessly worked to lower taxes, worked to reduce
15 regulations on small business owners, and was a leader on
16 international human rights; and
17 WHEREAS, After serving in Congress, Linda started Shared Hope
18 International, an organization that seeks to prevent child sex
19 trafficking, restore worth and dignity to those caught in the child
20 sex trade, and bring justice to victims and education and prevention
21 tools to the public; and
22 WHEREAS, In 2001 she formed the War Against Trafficking Alliance,
23 an organization to coordinate regional and international efforts to
24 fight sex trafficking; and
25 WHEREAS, Linda is a published author on the scourge of sex
26 trafficking; and
27 WHEREAS, Linda has been a tireless advocate for those with no
28 voice, seeking prevention, justice, and restoration for families and
29 communities affected by sex trafficking;
30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
31 recognize and honor Linda Smith's contributions in state and federal
32 government for advocating for children and families, and her
33 contributions to uplift and restore individuals and families caught
34 in the vicious cycle of sex trafficking.

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