SENATE RESOLUTION

8715

By Senators Rolfes, Bailey, Conway, Wagoner, McCoy, Dhingra, and Sheldon

WHEREAS, Washington state has both a strong maritime heritage and a contemporary reliance on the sea; and

WHEREAS, The United States Navy is the military service that secures sea lanes, allowing free flow of commerce to and from our state, and whose power projection promotes stability for our friends and deters aggression from our foes; and

WHEREAS, The Navy has been a presence in Puget Sound since before Washington statehood; and

WHEREAS, Navy installations provide careers and economic stability to tens of thousands of Washington state citizens; and

WHEREAS, Washington state Navy bases support two aircraft carriers, more than five surface ships, thirteen submarines, and 144 aircraft; and

WHEREAS, Washington state and the Pacific Northwest are home to 23,293 active duty Navy service members, 21,624 Navy civilian employees, 3,600 drilling Naval reservists, 42,000 Navy family members, and 99,191 Navy retirees; and

WHEREAS, Washington state based Navy personnel and assets regularly deploy around the world to deter aggression, relieve the distressed, and aid America's friends and allies; and

WHEREAS, Washington state Navy bases are consistently recognized for their leadership and innovation in environmental stewardship, community engagement, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Navy personnel routinely provide homeland security, disaster assistance, and rescue services to the citizens of Washington state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate celebrate Wednesday, February 21st, as Navy Appreciation Day and bring warm greetings and many thanks to each and every person related to the Navy's work and mission in our state.