

**SENATE RESOLUTION
1996-8680**

By Senators Rasmussen, Spanel, Cantu, Haugen and Kohl

WHEREAS, Washington is home to 930 dairy farms and 263,000 dairy cows; and
WHEREAS, Washington's dairy cows are the third most productive in America, averaging more than 3,800 pounds of milk per cow above the national average; and
WHEREAS, In the latest statistics, milk production in Washington increased four percent for a total annual production of 5.2 billion pounds in 1994; and
WHEREAS, Washington's livestock and livestock products established an all-time record high value, with milk as the number-one commodity in the category; and
WHEREAS, Our state's dairy farmers contributed \$681 million to the state's conomy in 1994, up seven percent from the previous year; and
WHEREAS, Milk production ranks second in dollar value among all of Washington's bountiful agricultural commodities; and
WHEREAS, In addition, many of Washington's manufactured dairy products, such as butter, cheeses, and ice cream, have seen remarkable increases in production and value in recent years; and
WHEREAS, Washington's dairy industry is actually older than the state itself; and
WHEREAS, The first creamery in Washington was started at Cheney in 1880, at a time when cattle outnumbered territorial residents by more than two-to-one; and
WHEREAS, Citizens throughout the state today honor this special industry with the annual Dairy Day celebration at the state capitol; and
WHEREAS, The Washington State Dairy Federation is the proud sponsor of this observance; and
WHEREAS, Jada Feddema of Skagit County is representing the dairy industry with distinction as the reigning Washington State Dairy Ambassador; and
WHEREAS, The Jane and Steve Warner family of Snohomish; the Marv Stremler family of Lynden; the Dick and Olga VanderKoy family of Mt. Vernon; and the Harold and Joni Visser family of Sunnyside are admirably representing the dairy farmers of Washington as the 1996 Washington State Dairy Families of the Year;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the members of the Washington State Senate acknowledge and honor the men and women whose work on dairy farms throughout Washington has contributed to the strength and vitality of our state and its economy, the character of our communities, and the well being of our citizens; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the President of the Senate to Washington State Dairy Ambassador Jada Feddema, and to the Warner, Stremler, VanderKoy, and Visser families.

I, Marty Brown, Secretary of the Senate,
do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 1996-8680,
adopted by the Senate January 31, 1996.

MARTY BROWN
Secretary of the Senate