

SENATE RESOLUTION
8670

By Senators Fraser, Weinstein, Johnson, Prentice, Kline, Benton, Carrell, Roach, Regala, Esser, Zarelli, Pridemore and Eide

WHEREAS, Softball was invented in 1895 by Minneapolis Fire Captain Louis Rober to help the members of his fire station stay fit; and

WHEREAS, The sport was originally played with a 16-inch ball and named "Kittenball"; and

WHEREAS, Senior softball began in the 1930s at a retirement community in Saint Petersburg, Florida, as a way to keep residents healthy and active; and

WHEREAS, There are more than 1.5 million active senior softball players today; and

WHEREAS, Softball is one of the few sports in the United States where men and women have achieved near parity in numbers; and

WHEREAS, Senior Softball-USA (SSUSA) is the world's largest organization of senior softball players - boasting 25,000 members - and it strives to provide every senior in the United States who wants to play softball with that opportunity; and

WHEREAS, The SSUSA divisions are split into five-year increments from ages 50 to 80 for men and ages 45 to 80 for women; and

WHEREAS, The "Northwest 75" team is composed of three players from Oregon, three from Vancouver, Washington, and nine players from Olympia to Bothell; all players are older than 75; and

WHEREAS, In September of 2004, the SSUSA held their World championships in Las Vegas, Nevada, where the Northwest 75 turned a triple play; and

WHEREAS, The Northwest 75 won the Triple Grand Slam, the highest honor, meaning they swept the Western National, National, and World championships; and

WHEREAS, The Northwest 75 is distinguished as one of only 12 teams to ever win the Triple Grand Slam;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate congratulate the Northwest 75 softball team for its high achievement and triumph in senior softball and for exemplifying that exercise promotes happy, full lives that can span a lifetime; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Northwest 75 softball team.

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate,
do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8670,
adopted by the Senate
April 4, 2005

THOMAS HOEMANN
Secretary of the Senate