By Senators Kohl-Welles, Jacobsen, Thibaudeau, Esser, Finkbeiner, Schmidt, Eide, McAuliffe, Spanel, Brown, Johnson and Roach

WHEREAS, RCW 28B.10.703 authorizes programs for intercollegiate athletics at our State's colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, The University of Washington, as a member of the Pacific-10 Conference, offers intercollegiate athletic competition for student-athletes in twenty-three sports for men and women; and

WHEREAS, Each sport strives to compete at the highest level, with the goal of winning a national championship; and

WHEREAS, The University of Washington's women's volleyball team defeated the number one ranked University of Nebraska on December 17, 2005, to win its first-ever NCAA national championship; and

WHEREAS, In winning the national championship, the Huskies became the first team in the tournament's history to sweep all six matches three games to none; and

WHEREAS, Four women on the volleyball team were recognized with All-America honors, including first-team selections Sanja Tomasevic and Courtney Thompson of Kent, Washington; and

WHEREAS, Puyallup, Washington native Christal Morrison was named most outstanding player in the NCAA championship tournament; and

WHEREAS, Courtney Thompson and Candace Lee earned second team Academic All-America honors; and

WHEREAS, The aggregate grade point average for the team for the fall quarter was 3.24; and

WHEREAS, In route to its first-ever NCAA championship, the volleyball team won a school record twenty-three consecutive matches in the 2005 season; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Jim McLaughlin was named Coach of the Year by the Pac-10 Conference;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate, on behalf of the citizens of the State of Washington, express to President Mark A. Emmert, Athletic Director Todd Turner, Coach Jim McLaughlin, the assistant coaches, and especially to all the members of the 2005 NCAA National Championship Volleyball team, congratulations on their momentous achievement and for bringing acclaim and recognition to our state and the university; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to University of Washington President Mark Emmert, Athletic Director Todd Turner, Coach Jim McLaughlin, and the coaching staff and members of the University of Washington's Women's Volleyball team.

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution 8709, adopted by the Senate February 28, 2006

THOMAS HOEMANN Secretary of the Senate