SENATE RESOLUTION 8732

By Senators Esser, Kastama, Pridemore, Delvin, Finkbeiner and Keiser

WHEREAS, Apolo Ohno, the 23-year-old speed skater from Seattle, who is the 2005 World Cup overall champion, won gold and silver medals in the 2002 Olympic Winter Games and was the youngest American to win a World Cup, represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy, winning gold in the men's 500-meter race, bronze in the men's 5000-meter relay, and bronze in the men's 1000-meter race; and

WHEREAS, Kelly Stephens, the 22-year-old ice hockey forward from Seattle, who played in all 22 games and is ranked 3rd on the U.S. women's national team with 3 power play goals during its pre-Olympic schedule, won a gold medal and finished 2nd on the team with 7 points in 5 games at the 2005 International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championship, represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy, winning a bronze medal along with her team in a 4-0 victory over Finland; and

WHEREAS, Jill Bakken, the 29-year-old Olympic bobsledder from Kirkland, who set a first heat run track record of 48.81 seconds and carried the United States flag at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, and who also serves our country in the U.S. Army National Guard, represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy; and

WHEREAS, KC Boutiette, the 35-year-old Olympic speed skater from Lakewood and Tacoma, who finished 5th in the 5000-meter event at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games and is a 4 time Olympian, represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy; and

WHEREAS, Libby Ludlow, the 24-year-old Olympic alpine skier from Bellevue, who got her 1st World Cup points and her 1st U.S. title in giant slalom in 2004, got her 1st World Cup Top 30, Top 25, and Top 20 finishes in 2003, and battled back from multiple injuries to qualify for the U.S. Ski Team's "A-Team," represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy; and

WHEREAS, Scott Macartney, the 28-year-old Olympic alpine skier from Redmond, who competed in the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, won bronze medals in the downhill and super G at the 2003 U.S. Championships and battled back from multiple injuries to qualify for the U.S. Ski Team's "B-Team," represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy; and

WHEREAS, Paul McDonald, the 21-year-old Olympic alpine skier from Bellevue, who was the 2004 NCAA slalom champion and won bronze in the 2005 Canadian Championships and qualified for the U.S. Ski Team's "B-Team," represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy; and

WHEREAS, Tom Rothrock, the 27-year-old alpine skier from Cashmere, who scored his 1st World Cup points and competed in his 1st Olympics in 2002, registered his 1st World Cup Top 10 finish in 2004 and qualified for the U.S. Ski Team's "A-Team," represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy; and

WHEREAS, Evan Weiss, the 21-year-old from Seattle, who won 4 college carnival victories in 2005, finished 3rd in the U.S. Giant Slalom Championship, is a 3 time Junior Worlds competitor, and who battled back from injury to qualify for the U.S. Ski Team's "C-Team," represented the United States and Washington in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate honor our 2006 Winter Olympians and congratulate them on their success in Torino, and thank them for serving as positive role models for the children of Washington state, the nation, and the world.