

SENATE RESOLUTION
8675

By Senators Franklin, Shin, Spanel, Rasmussen, Kohl-Welles and Fraser

WHEREAS, All children deserve a permanent, safe, and stable home, a place where they can realize their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Each year, thousands of children in foster care wait for their "forever family," permanent families to provide stability, unconditional love, patience, and understanding; and

WHEREAS, Children of color are disproportionately represented in the foster care system, especially African-American children; and

WHEREAS, The average time a child spends in foster care before being adopted is 7.9 years, according to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System; and

WHEREAS, Every year, National Adoption Day brings together communities, judges, attorneys, and child advocates to finalize adoptions for waiting children in all 50 states; and

WHEREAS, Since 1896, Children's Home Society of Washington has placed more than 30,000 children in permanent adoptive homes; and

WHEREAS, Children's Home Society of Washington has evolved from an adoption agency to a nationally recognized leader in prevention-based family support services; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, Children's Home Society of Washington partnered with the Division of Children and Family Services to finalize 14 adoptions on National Adoption Day; and

WHEREAS, The counties of Chelan, Clallam, Clark, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Whatcom, and Yakima participated in National Adoption Day festivities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate recognize the valuable role of adoptive parents, providing a child with a safe and nurturing family of his or her own when birth parents cannot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Sharon Osborne, president and CEO of Children's Home Society of Washington.

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate,
do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8675,
adopted by the Senate
March 30, 2007

THOMAS HOEMANN
Secretary of the Senate