

SENATE RESOLUTION

8705

By Senators Fraser, Darneille, Nelson, Conway, Fain, Hargrove, Keiser, Parlette, Dammeier, Honeyford, McCoy, Rolfes, and Lias

1 WHEREAS, On July 15, 2015, the Washington State Legislature lost
2 a valued member of the Third House when Cherie Tessier passed on
3 peacefully from this life; and

4 WHEREAS, Cherie was a dedicated advocate for those with
5 developmental disabilities and special needs who became a familiar,
6 friendly face often seen around campus; and

7 WHEREAS, Cherie was an active member in the communities in which
8 she lived, belonging to Toast Masters; PAS-Port 4 Change, an advocacy
9 group for Disability Rights Washington; and Self-Advocates in
10 Leadership, a statewide group based at The Arc; and

11 WHEREAS, Through her work at PAS-Port 4 Change, Cherie worked to
12 educate legislators that people with disabilities have the right to
13 work in communities as equal citizens; and

14 WHEREAS, Cherie would represent the People First of Washington,
15 testifying very effectively as their voice on issues and policies
16 that affected their membership and others with different abilities;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, An original member of the Committee on Legislative
19 Action she participated in creating their legislative priorities each
20 year; and

21 WHEREAS, Cherie worked tirelessly and selflessly as an advocate
22 for People First of Thurston County, and was recognized as a champion
23 for those with disabilities; and

1 WHEREAS, In addition to her community and advocacy roles, Cherie
2 hosted and produced two award-winning public affairs shows; and
3 WHEREAS, These shows, "Let Your Voices Be Heard" and "Meet Your
4 State Legislators" aired on Thurston County Television and often
5 featured various members of the Legislature; and
6 WHEREAS, Through these programs, Cherie helped provide useful,
7 interesting information to thousands of viewers, while giving a voice
8 to those who might not be heard; and
9 WHEREAS, In her spare time, Cherie loved to knit and crochet, and
10 found great joy in making items for her loved ones; and
11 WHEREAS, So many will miss Cherie singing Happy Birthday, because
12 she always remembered; and
13 WHEREAS, Cherie was cherished by many as an inspiration, a
14 tireless and effective advocate, and a wonderful, warm person;
15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
16 honor the tremendous advocacy work, contributions, and life of Cherie
17 Tessier; and
18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
19 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
20 immediate family members of Cherie Tessier and to People First of
21 Thurston County and Thurston County Television (TCTV).

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