

SENATE RESOLUTION

8705

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

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,
2 Cherie hosted and produced two award-winning public affairs
3 shows; and

4 WHEREAS, These shows, "Let Your Voices Be Heard" and "Meet
5 Your State Legislators" aired on Thurston County Television and
6 often featured various members of the Legislature; and

7 WHEREAS, Through these programs, Cherie helped provide
8 useful, interesting information to thousands of viewers, while
9 giving a voice to those who might not be heard; and

10 WHEREAS, In her spare time, Cherie loved to knit and
11 crochet, and found great joy in making items for her loved ones;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, So many will miss Cherie singing Happy Birthday,
14 because she always remembered; and

15 WHEREAS, Cherie was cherished by many as an inspiration, a
16 tireless and effective advocate, and a wonderful, warm person;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
18 Senate honor the tremendous advocacy work, contributions, and
19 life of Cherie Tessier; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
21 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
22 immediate family members of Cherie Tessier and to People First
23 of Thurston County and Thurston County Television (TCTV).

24 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
25 do hereby certify that this is a true and
26 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8705,
27 adopted by the Senate
28 February 10, 2016

29 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
30 Secretary of the Senate