

SENATE RESOLUTION

8669

By Senators Hunt, Rossi, Frockt, Warnick, Conway, Miloscia, Carlyle, Fortunato, Ranker, Baumgartner, Darneille, Cleveland, Angel, Chase, Nelson, Mullet, McCoy, Zeiger, Hobbs, King, Takko, O'Ban, Pedersen, Keiser, Sheldon, Bailey, Rolfes, Rivers, Kuderer, Saldaña, Schoesler, Palumbo, Wilson, Hasegawa, Fain, Hawkins, Billig, Ericksen, Braun, Short, Brown, Pearson, Walsh, Becker, Honeyford, Liias, Wellman, and Van De Wege

1 WHEREAS, Marty Brown of Olympia, Washington is retiring after an
2 illustrious and unparalleled 40-year career in public service; and

3 WHEREAS, Martin Henry Brown was born in Iowa Falls, Iowa, on May
4 20, 1952, to Velma and Henry Brown; and

5 WHEREAS, Marty entered a life of public service and involvement
6 at an early age as the son of a high school teacher and an
7 electrician who both served as party precinct captains; and

8 WHEREAS, Marty further caught the political bug when he had the
9 opportunity to meet Senator George McGovern after being bitten by a
10 dog while doorbelling for the candidate; and

11 WHEREAS, Marty is an alumnus of Ellsworth Community College and
12 the University of Iowa, where he served as a resident advisor and was
13 a member of the skydiving club; and

14 WHEREAS, Marty has always been an avid supporter of the Iowa
15 ~~Jayhawks~~ Hawkeyes, known to wax poetic over the wrestling dominance
16 of Dan Gable and the coaching acumen of Hayden Fry and Dr. Tom Davis;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, After working a short time with the Iowa Legislature,
19 Marty left the snowy plains of Iowa to attend and eventually graduate
20 from law school at the University of Puget Sound; and

21 WHEREAS, During law school, Marty began working as senate
22 committee staff, spending so much time in Olympia that he unwittingly

1 met one of his professors for the first time midway through the
2 term playing a pickup basketball game; and

3 WHEREAS, Marty began his career as senate committee staff in
4 1978, narrowly missing out on PERS 1 eligibility; and

5 WHEREAS, Marty helped the senate members and staff weather
6 tumultuous times in 1981 when the majority switched early in the
7 legislative session; and

8 WHEREAS, Marty progressed to Senate Democratic Caucus
9 Attorney, Senate Democratic Staff Director, coach of the
10 infamous Raucous Caucus softball team, and ultimately Secretary
11 of the Senate from 1993 to 1997; and

12 WHEREAS, Marty was one of many who became an expert
13 volunteer at the Sign Shop; and

14 WHEREAS, Marty was taught by his cherished friend and
15 mentor, Senator Sid Snyder, that a good story can be told over
16 and over; and

17 WHEREAS, Marty's rule of response has always been, "If the
18 person asks once, ignore it; twice, remember it; and take it
19 seriously the third time."; and

20 WHEREAS, Marty himself has learned a story or two in his
21 years of public service, and he tells both of them over and over
22 again; and

23 WHEREAS, Marty was appointed Director of Legislative Affairs
24 by Governor Gary Locke, and later served as Deputy Chief of
25 Staff and Director of the Office of Financial Management; and

26 WHEREAS, Under Governor Christine Gregoire, Marty once again
27 served as Director of Legislative Affairs and Director of the
28 Office of Financial Management; and

29 WHEREAS, While working at his current position as the
30 Executive Director of the State Board of Community and Technical
31 Colleges, Marty helped the system win several coveted grants and
32 awards that moved Washington State community and technical
33 colleges into the national spotlight; and

34 WHEREAS, Marty's commitment to improving higher education in
35 Washington State facilitated the creation of several valuable
36 applied degree programs, creating new career opportunities for
37 thousands of students; and

1 WHEREAS, Marty is a well-respected leader and negotiator who
2 managed and guided important and challenging policy initiatives
3 throughout his career, particularly during tough financial
4 times, while maintaining a calm demeanor, sharp sense of humor,
5 and respect for all; and

6 WHEREAS, Marty earned a reputation far and wide that if "you
7 wanted to get something done in Olympia, you went to see Marty
8 Brown"; and

9 WHEREAS, Marty is known for being very decisive and never
10 letting moss grow under his feet and for responding to long
11 emails and complicated questions with short answers like Yes,
12 No, Thnx, and Call me; and

13 WHEREAS, All those who have had the misfortune to follow in
14 Marty's footsteps in the Senate, Governor's Office, and Office
15 of Financial Management have been chagrined that he excelled and
16 set the bar so high in each of the positions he held; and

17 WHEREAS, Throughout Marty's career in state government,
18 countless individuals have sought and relied upon his
19 unfailingly good advice, sound judgment, and considerable
20 expertise, including parliamentary questions; and

21 WHEREAS, Marty has been a loyal and trusted friend and
22 mentor to so many; and

23 WHEREAS, Marty has been married to his beloved wife Kate,
24 who works for the Office of Financial Management, for nearly 35
25 years; and

26 WHEREAS, Marty and Kate raised two talented and upstanding
27 sons, Sam and Max, who have followed them into public service,
28 one of whom works for us on senate committee staff; and

29 WHEREAS, Marty will no doubt be spending ample time in
30 retirement with his five lovely and energetic grandchildren,
31 Maddox, Thomas, Ryder, Rowan, and David, who affectionately know
32 him as "Bah"; and

33 WHEREAS, Marty is a dedicated and passionate volunteer youth
34 sports coach, teaching his children, grandchildren, and others
35 the values of teamwork, selflessness, fair play, and humility
36 through baseball and basketball;

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
38 Senate thank and commend Mr. Marty Brown for his many years of

1 outstanding public service and wish him all the best in
2 retirement; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
4 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Marty
5 Brown, his family, and the members of the State Board of
6 Community and Technical Colleges.

7 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
8 do hereby certify that this is a true and
9 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8669,
10 adopted by the Senate
11 June 27, 2017

12 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
13 Secretary of the Senate