

SENATE RESOLUTION

8689

By Senators Darneille, Conway, Nelson, Kuderer, Cleveland, Dhingra, Rolfes, Wellman, Chase, and Saldaña

1 WHEREAS, Judith (Judie) Fortier was born on October 24, 1948, in
2 Tacoma, Washington; she was known as a forceful, giving, and open-
3 hearted woman; and

4 WHEREAS, Judie was the daughter of a Union organizer and a public
5 school music teacher; and

6 WHEREAS, Judie grew up in South Tacoma where she attended
7 Arlington Elementary School and was spirited and outspoken from a
8 young age until the end of her days; and

9 WHEREAS, As a defender of human and women's rights, Judie became
10 the coordinator in the Women's Rights Division of the Human Rights
11 Department for the City of Tacoma from 1974 through 2004; and

12 WHEREAS, Judie Fortier led the women's movement in Tacoma, and
13 supported women's movements around the world; and Judie was tireless
14 in her work to advance causes affecting women; and

15 WHEREAS, Judie Fortier voiced the rallying cry against some of
16 the major challenges of our lives, including domestic violence,
17 harassment, sexual assault, gun violence, the mass deportation
18 policies that rip families apart, sexual exploitation, trafficking,
19 and rape; and

20 WHEREAS, The women's movement has changed the course of history;
21 and fierce women like Judie Fortier have been leaders in this
22 constant battle speaking up and speaking out, often unseen and

1 uncelebrated, but none have affected a community like Tacoma
2 quite like Judie has; and

3 WHEREAS, Judie recognized that 1 in 3 women worldwide have
4 experienced violence in their lifetime and she was committed to
5 raising awareness and changing public policy that affects these
6 women; and

7 WHEREAS, Judie was a warrior for many causes from health
8 access for all women and girls particularly those affected by
9 breast cancer; economic equality, racial justice, to LGBTQ
10 rights, and was an early advocate for gender equality in Title
11 IX protections and the ratification of the Equal Rights
12 Amendment; and

13 WHEREAS, Judie once said: "You can't be what you can't see,"
14 and was dedicated to encouraging the next generation of women
15 leaders; and

16 WHEREAS, Judie was a mentor who never tired of telling women
17 and girls to recognize their power and challenged them to change
18 the world; she fought for equality in sports, education,
19 business, community and nonprofit leadership, and in public
20 service, especially working to elect women to public office; and

21 WHEREAS, Judith Fortier passed away on January 5, 2018,
22 leaving an enormous sense of loss among her friends, her
23 neighbors, her community, and the women's movement in Tacoma and
24 across the country and beyond; and

25 WHEREAS, In her final tweet on November 29, 2017, Judie
26 Fortier wrote: "Your life is better because of the millions of
27 women who believe in you and the leadership of people like
28 Secretary Clinton, Maya Angelou, Delores Huerta, Ramona Bennett,
29 and others"; and

30 WHEREAS, Our lives are better because Judie Fortier changed
31 our lives;

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
33 Senate celebrate and honor Judith Fortier the woman, the mentor,
34 the friend; acknowledge her invaluable contributions; and
35 recognize her dedication, tenacity, passion, and sacrifice to
36 give strength to women for generations to come.

37 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,

1 do hereby certify that this is a true and
2 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8689,
3 adopted by the Senate
4 January 25, 2018

5 BRAD HENDRICKSON
6 Secretary of the Senate