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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8023

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Senators Deccio, Owen, Newhouse, Sellar, Snyder, Bauer, McCaslin,  
A. Anderson, Prince, Rasmussen and Roach

Read first time 01/11/96. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

2 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
3 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
4 represent and petition as follows:

5 WHEREAS, Senator James T. Matson has served the people of the  
6 Yakima Valley and the State of Washington with distinction during his  
7 sixteen-year tenure in the Legislature; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator Matson is known and respected for his legislative  
9 knowledge and political instincts; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator Matson has displayed his leadership skills,  
11 whether serving as Senate Minority Leader of the Senate Republican  
12 Caucus or, most recently, as Chairman of the Senate's Committee on  
13 Labor and Commerce; and

14 WHEREAS, Senator Matson's penchant for straight talk and reputation  
15 as one who does not go back on his word was refreshing during these  
16 times of political rhetoric and double talk; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator Matson has been a powerful ally and promoter for  
18 the state's agricultural industry, fighting for right-to-farm laws and  
19 reducing unnecessary government red tape; and

20 WHEREAS, Senator Matson has supported efforts to give police and  
21 investigators the necessary tools to fight drugs and crime; and

1       WHEREAS, Most notably, Senator Matson distinguished himself as a  
2 taxpayer advocate, leading the way for smaller, leaner state  
3 government; and

4       WHEREAS, Throughout his legislative career, Senator Matson fought  
5 hard to keep government off the backs of businesses, farmers, and  
6 citizens; and

7       WHEREAS, Senator Matson has been a strong supporter of the Yakima  
8 Valley, evident in such projects as the rebuilding of the Clear Creek  
9 Dam; and

10       WHEREAS, Opinion leaders have called Jim "one of the best  
11 legislators this past quarter century," " . . . one of the most highly  
12 respected, intelligent and independent-minded lawmakers in Olympia,"  
13 describing him with words such as "honesty," "integrity," and  
14 "commitment"; and

15       WHEREAS, It was always important for Senator Matson to do first-  
16 class work for the Senate and the people who elected him and,  
17 throughout his years of service, Senator Matson never let either of  
18 them down;

19       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the State  
20 Department of Transportation name the overpass at Selah, Washington  
21 after Senator James T. Matson.

22       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
23 transmitted to the State Department of Transportation.

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