

---

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8424**

---

**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1998 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Hale, Loveland, Sellar, Strannigan, Rossi, Snyder, Kline, Heavey, Anderson, Hochstatter, Haugen, Spanel, Rasmussen, Swecker, Horn, Newhouse, Stevens, Johnson, Prince, McDonald, Bauer and Jacobsen

Read first time 01/19/98. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Parks.

1       WHEREAS, Mighty rivers began shaping the State of Washington  
2 thousands of years ago, creating an area of exceptional natural beauty  
3 at the confluence of the Yakima, Snake, and Columbia Rivers; and

4       WHEREAS, Washington citizens' universal connection to the water is  
5 an abundantly powerful force; and

6       WHEREAS, No single resource in the great State of Washington  
7 influences the region's culture and way of life as its rivers do; and

8       WHEREAS, Washington's mighty rivers are the lifeblood of the  
9 Pacific Northwest which immeasurably add to the state's economy and the  
10 quality of life enjoyed by all the state's citizens; and

11       WHEREAS, Washington's rivers provide an abundant supply of  
12 spectacular fish including steelhead, salmon, and chinook, recognized  
13 delicacies throughout the United States and the world; and

14       WHEREAS, The Columbia, Snake, and Yakima Rivers offer unique water  
15 resources with enormous potential as tourist attractions and  
16 recreational venues; and

17       WHEREAS, A year-long celebration is planned by the Tri-Cities  
18 communities of Kennewick, Pasco, and Richland to encourage extended use  
19 of the river parks and waterfront areas for special events and  
20 celebrations to highlight these rivers as great assets; and

1       WHEREAS, The celebration will accelerate the completion of river-  
2 related public works projects and amenities to enhance the riverfront  
3 areas, increase tourism, and foster economic diversity;

4       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the State of  
5 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, that the  
6 Washington State Senate and House of Representatives declare 1998, "The  
7 Year of the River."

--- END ---