

**SENATE RESOLUTION**  
**8620**

*By Senators Stevens, Kastama, Winsley, Hewitt, Carlson, Long, Parlette, Rossi, West, Hale, Rasmussen, Roach, Benton, McDonald, Sheahan, Hargrove, Johnson, Morton, Sheldon, T., Zarelli, Honeyford, Oke, Hochstatter, McCaslin, Swecker, Haugen, Kohl-Welles and Gardner*

*WHEREAS, The state of Washington recognizes the critical importance and fundamental right of parents to be actively involved in the direction of their children's education and character development; and*

*WHEREAS, Home schools can provide families the opportunity for their children to receive a sound academic education and reinforced by the at-home educational process; and*

*WHEREAS, The state of Washington is committed to excellence in education and student achievement; and*

*WHEREAS, Studies confirm that children who are educated at home score exceptionally well on nationally normed achievement tests, exhibit self-confidence and good citizenship, and are fully prepared to meet the challenge of today's society; and*

*WHEREAS, The state of Washington appropriately recognizes, by law, the right to home education as a legitimate and viable educational alternative; and*

*WHEREAS, Teaching children at home was the predominant form of education for much of America's early years; and*

*WHEREAS, Many notable Americans have been the product of home education, including George and Martha Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Abigail Adams, John Quincy Adams, Thomas Edison, Helen Keller, Douglas MacArthur, Pearl S. Buck, Franklin Roosevelt, Patrick Henry, John Marshall, Abraham Lincoln, Booker T. Washington, and Woodrow Wilson; and*

*WHEREAS, Washington now has more children being educated at home schools than ever before in the history of our state; and*

*WHEREAS, Some parents of students who home school have accepted an additional financial responsibility to provide for their children's education, while at the same time paying taxes which support Washington's public school system; and*

*WHEREAS, Some parent educators devote countless hours to helping their children attain academic excellence, a deep sense of patriotism, and civic responsibility and prepare them to become productive citizens; and*

*WHEREAS, It is appropriate that Washington's home-educating families be recognized for their selfless contribution to the quality of education in this great state;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate of the state of Washington*

*hereby honor, thank, and celebrate the home-educating families in the state.*

*I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate,  
do hereby certify that this is a true and  
correct copy of Senate Resolution 2001-8260,  
adopted by the Senate February 23, 2001.*

**TONY M. COOK**

*Secretary of the Senate*