

**SENATE RESOLUTION**  
**8737**

*By Senators Rasmussen, Honeyford, Parlette, Hochstatter, Sheahan and Roach*

*WHEREAS, the beef cattle industry has been with us since the earliest territorial days when settlers had to raise their own food to survive; and*

*WHEREAS, many of those in the beef industry today are carrying on a more than a century old tradition begun by their pioneer relatives in all thirty-nine counties of the state; and*

*WHEREAS, Those who raise beef cattle have a rich heritage of stewardship of the land and of animals in their care, because cattle ranching is unique among agricultural pursuits in that it maintains and perpetuates natural ecological processes; and*

*WHEREAS, One of the results of proper rangeland management is improved habitat for elk, deer, salmon, birds, rodents, and other wildlife; and*

*WHEREAS, research funded and implemented by the beef industry in Washington has led to production of genetically superior cattle that are in demand in export as well as domestic markets; and*

*WHEREAS, beef cattle and calves were the third largest agricultural commodity in Washington State with a value of more than \$560 million in the year 2000; and*

*WHEREAS, the production value of beef in 2000 represented a twenty-three percent increase from 1999, for the 10,000 beef operations in Washington containing 1.2 million cattle; and*

*WHEREAS, the beef cattle industry is the largest agricultural commodity in the United States, with cattle raised commercially in all fifty states by approximately one million producers; and*

*WHEREAS, the value of the approximately ninety-eight million cattle nationwide was \$70 billion last year, up \$3 billion from the previous year;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the hard work and dedication of the men and women in the beef cattle industry is hereby recognized by the Washington State Senate; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Washington State Beef Commission and the Washington Cattlemen's Association.*

*I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate,  
do hereby certify that this is a true and  
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8737,  
adopted by the Senate February 5, 2002.*

**TONY M. COOK**  
*Secretary of the Senate*