

SENATE RESOLUTION
8744

By Senator Snyder

WHEREAS, In 1963, Washington established the Teacher of the Year program, which honors an exceptional elementary and a secondary classroom educator; and

WHEREAS, The program's objective is to increase awareness of a classroom teacher's contribution to education and provide unique teaching and learning opportunities for chosen teachers by establishing partnerships that support, educate, and honor regional and state teachers of the year; and

WHEREAS, Any of Washington's 51,000 teachers can be nominated for Teacher of the Year, a program administered by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, Students, parents, administrators and school employees participate in the nomination process within their local school district; and

WHEREAS, On October 18, 2001, Superintendent of Public Instruction Terry Bergeson bestowed the Teacher of the Year award upon Aberdeen High School English instructor David McKay; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Hoquiam, McKay is a 1984 graduate of the University of Washington who received his master's degree in education from City University in 1996; and

WHEREAS, McKay's teaching philosophy helps students build a bridge between classroom learning and its application to society while embracing Aberdeen High School's mission of allowing students the maximum opportunity to learn, grow and experience success; and

WHEREAS, Washington garnered national attention when in 1963, Elmon Ousley from the Bellevue School District, and in 1970, Johnnie T. Dennis from the Walla Walla School District, were selected as national Teachers of the Year; and

WHEREAS, In April 2002, David McKay will represent Washington in the National Teacher of the Year competition, to be held in Washington, D.C.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate honor David McKay for his seventeen years of continued excellence, dedication and perseverance in the teaching profession; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to David McKay and to the principal of Aberdeen High School.