

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.4716, by Representative Linville

WHEREAS, Approximately one in three jobs in Washington State is tied to foreign trade, making Washington one of the most trade dependent states in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Washington has long enjoyed favorable trade and cultural relations with many nations around the world, and is continuously expanding markets and business relationships that are mutually beneficial; and

WHEREAS, In the last ten years, the Republic of India has moved onto the global stage as the largest democracy in the world with the largest middle-class, thus representing significant market potential for Washington businesses; and

WHEREAS, In the last decade, trade delegations from Washington State have twice visited India, building successful trade alliances and opening markets for Washington businesses; and

WHEREAS, The 2003 Secretary of State's trade mission to India was vital in assisting Washington supercomputer manufacturer Cray Inc. close a deal with the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the first of several subsequent Cray supercomputer sales that marked the reopening of India as a significant high technology market; and

WHEREAS, In 1961, Hemant S. Sonawala received his Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Washington and went on to found the Hinditron Group of Companies; and

WHEREAS, Hemant Sonawala was instrumental in coordinating the 2003 Washington State trade mission to India and now leads a return delegation to Washington to further explore mutual business and trade interests, strengthen our cultural relations, and promote Washington as a great place to do business;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of Representatives recognize Hemant Sonawala for his contributions to building positive and productive trade relations between Washington State and India, and his fellow delegation members, all leaders in their respective fields of business; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to Mr. Hemant S. Sonawala and the sixteen members of the 2006 Indo-American Chamber of Commerce Delegation.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
Resolution 4716 adopted by the House of Representatives
March 4, 2006

Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk