

SENATE RESOLUTION
8616

By Senators Fraser, Honeyford, Swecker, Sheldon, Kauffman, Murray, Franklin, Parlette, Kohl-Welles, Schoesler, Brown, Stevens, King, Brandland, Eide, Berkey, Hewitt, Holmquist, Carrell, Roach, Prentice, Morton, Becker, Rockefeller, Pflug, Oemig, Hatfield, McDermott, Ranker, Keiser, Marr, Regala, Kastama, Pridemore, Shin, Jarrett, and McAuliffe

WHEREAS, The City of Olympia celebrates its 150th birthday, its sesquicentennial, on January 28, 2009; and

WHEREAS, President Franklin Pierce designated Isaac I. Stevens Washington's first Territorial Governor; and

WHEREAS, Governor Stevens issued a proclamation naming Olympia as Washington's provisional territorial capital on November 28, 1853, confirmed by the Territorial Legislature in 1855; and

WHEREAS, The City of Olympia has served as Washington's capital continuously since 1853; and

WHEREAS, The first Territorial Legislature met in the Parker and Colter Store, near present day Olympia Avenue and Capitol Way, on February 28, 1854; and

WHEREAS, The City of Olympia was first incorporated by the Territorial Legislature on January 28, 1859, thirty-six years prior to statehood; and

WHEREAS, Washington became the forty-second state on November 11, 1889; and

WHEREAS, Olympia takes pride in being the state capital, and its capitol building being one of the largest capitol buildings in the nation, having the fourth largest free-standing masonry dome in the world, surpassed only by St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome, St. Paul's Cathedral in London, and St. Isaac's Cathedral in St. Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, Olympia pioneer Edmund Sylvester donated the land for the capitol building at its current location; and

WHEREAS, Olympia is located at the south end of Puget Sound, with breathtaking views of Mt. Rainier, Puget Sound, and the Olympic Mountains; and

WHEREAS, The name "Olympia" was selected by resident Isaac N. Ebey to reflect the view of the majestic Olympic Mountains; and

WHEREAS, The peninsula on which Olympia was founded was known as "Cheetwoot" or "the black bear place" by the Puget Sound Native Americans who occupied the site; and

WHEREAS, Budd Inlet was a favorite shellfish gathering site for many tribes including the Nisqually and Squaxin; and

WHEREAS, The City of Olympia is a regional showcase and center for music, theater, and the other performing and visual arts; and

WHEREAS, Through its long history, Olympia has steadily prospered, flourished, and overcome disasters and challenges such as fires, earthquakes, and economic recessions; and

WHEREAS, The people of Olympia and surrounding areas celebrate Olympia's modern-day role as a thriving city with a high quality of life recognized in multiple national surveys, an international port, and regional center for commerce, education, and health care, and the state capital; and

WHEREAS, Citizens, elected officials, and community leaders celebrated Olympia's historic sesquicentennial with a 150th birthday gala on January 17, 2009;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate commemorate the City of Olympia and its citizens on the occasion of its sesquicentennial; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Olympia Mayor Doug Mah, Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Kingsbury, and to Olympia Councilmembers Joe Hyer, Joan Machlis, Karen Messmer, Craig Ottavelli, and Rhenda Iris Strub.

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate,

do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8616,
adopted by the Senate
January 30, 2009

THOMAS HOEMANN
Secretary of the Senate