

SENATE RESOLUTION

8700

By Senators Fain, Takko, Hobbs, Frockt, Hill, Litzow, Keiser, Fraser, Nelson, Conway, Hasegawa, Jayapal, McCoy, Cleveland, McAuliffe, Mullet, Darneille, Carlyle, Chase, King, Rolfes, Ranker, Bailey, and Benton

1 WHEREAS, The Latino/a Educational Achievement Project, or LEAP,
2 was established as a nonprofit organization in 1998, and recognized
3 that the increasing numbers of latino students in Washington's public
4 schools were underserved; and

5 WHEREAS, LEAP was formed with the goal of closing the opportunity
6 gap between latino students and their peers through improving
7 educational outcomes and legislative advocacy; and

8 WHEREAS, As an advocate for students, LEAP educates students and
9 their parents on how to effectively make their voice heard through
10 their local representatives; and

11 WHEREAS, Each year LEAP's advisory board sets a policy agenda
12 aimed at tackling issues most important to latino students, with
13 agenda items forwarded to state and federal representatives, the
14 Governor, and various education boards at the high school and
15 collegiate level; and

16 WHEREAS, LEAP's past legislative success includes the passage of
17 House Bill 1079 in 2003, allowing undocumented students to pay in-
18 state tuition for college, and Senate Bill 6523 in 2014, making in-
19 state financial aid more widely available; and

20 WHEREAS, As they pursue improved academic development, LEAP hosts
21 a variety of programs to give students the skills, knowledge, and
22 confidence to graduate from high school and pursue postsecondary
23 education; and

1 WHEREAS, Today's legislative day and educational conference
2 is an example of LEAP's programming—this annual two-day event is
3 split between an education conference in Tacoma and today's trip
4 to Olympia to give students the opportunity to meet their
5 representatives; additional programs include public education
6 workshops for students and parents and after-school peer
7 leadership programs focusing on leadership, civic engagement,
8 college prep, and community service; and

9 WHEREAS, In addition to education programming, LEAP
10 coordinates with Sea Mar Community Health Centers to offer a
11 variety of scholarships;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
13 Senate welcome the Latino/a Educational Achievement Project to
14 Olympia and recognize them for their hard work advocating for
15 positive academic outcomes for Washington's latino and latina
16 students.

17 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
18 do hereby certify that this is a true and
19 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8700,
20 adopted by the Senate
21 February 5, 2016

22 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
23 Secretary of the Senate