

SENATE RESOLUTION

8703

By Senators Hobbs, Carlyle, Liiias, Warnick, Pedersen, McCoy, Braun, Mullet, Honeyford, Sheldon, Conway, Rivers, Ericksen, Dammeier, McAuliffe, King, Litzow, Ranker, Angel, Bailey, Hewitt, Padden, Chase, Nelson, Fraser, Rolfes, Fain, Cleveland, Takko, and Brown

1 WHEREAS, More than eight thousand men and women of the Washington
2 National Guard continue to serve the country as guardians of American
3 interests at home and abroad; and

4 WHEREAS, These recognized leaders in state, regional, and
5 national preparedness, who reside in nearly every legislative
6 district throughout Washington, volunteer their time and put personal
7 lives aside when the needs of the people of Washington state arise;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The Guard always answers the state's call in response to
10 all emergency efforts to protect lives and property, and recently
11 mobilized more than 1,500 soldiers and airmen and airwomen to respond
12 to the state's largest wildfire; and

13 WHEREAS, The Guard continues to train and prepare for both
14 natural disasters and threats to our national security, including
15 cyber threats; and

16 WHEREAS, The Guard continues to improve the lives of Washington's
17 young adults, many on the brink of dropping out of school, through
18 its Washington Youth Academy; and

19 WHEREAS, The Guard adds value to communities by opening its
20 Readiness Centers for community and youth activities, and uses these
21 facilities to enhance education, add to quality of life, and increase
22 economic vitality; and

1 WHEREAS, Washington National Guard soldiers and airmen and
2 airwomen continue to provide critical support to federal missions
3 around the world and are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to
4 protect our freedoms and enhance our safety, including Sergeant First
5 Class Matthew McClintock, who leaves behind a young wife and infant
6 son after he was killed in action in Afghanistan earlier this year;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
8 express its thanks and appreciation to the devoted families and
9 dedicated employers of our Washington National Guard soldiers and
10 airmen and airwomen for their support, without whom the Guard's
11 missions could not be successful; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the value and
13 dedication of a strong Washington National Guard to the viability,
14 economy, safety, security, and well-being of this state, both through
15 the outstanding performance of its state emergency and disaster
16 relief mission, and through the continued benefit to local
17 communities by the presence of productively employed, drug-free,
18 well-equipped, and trained Guard units and the readiness centers and
19 armories that house them; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
21 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to The
22 Adjutant General of the Washington National Guard, the Governor of
23 the State of Washington, the Secretaries of the United States Army
24 and Air Force, and the President of the United States.

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