

SENATE RESOLUTION

8740

By Senators Rivers, Cleveland, Keiser, Fraser, Sheldon, and King

1 WHEREAS, John McKibbin was one of Clark County's most well-known
2 and, more importantly, well-respected citizens, serving in many
3 leadership positions for decades; and

4 WHEREAS, John was a Clark County resident since 1969 and taught
5 at Vancouver's Columbia River High School before becoming a 49th
6 District legislator in 1974, serving two terms in the House of
7 Representatives, and then a Clark County Commissioner in 1978,
8 winning with an impressive 71 percent of the vote; and

9 WHEREAS, Upon leaving elected office in 1990, John dedicated
10 himself to serving Clark County through volunteer work that included
11 serving as president and chief executive officer of the Greater
12 Vancouver Chamber of Commerce; and

13 WHEREAS, John's latest effort to encourage greater public
14 engagement in southwest Washington was his founding of Identity Clark
15 County and Leadership Clark County; and

16 WHEREAS, John combined an enthusiasm for life with seemingly
17 endless energy and that rare ability to reach across divides and
18 disagreements to bring people together, particularly when the cause
19 was the betterment of his community; and

20 WHEREAS, John was always the visionary and at the end of his life
21 was organizing a diverse group of southwest Washington business and
22 education leaders to implement "The Pearson Field Initiative," a

1 STEM-based education opportunity centered on aerospace and aviation
2 careers at Vancouver's Pearson Field; and

3 WHEREAS, John loved aviation and his early 1940s North American
4 AT-6A, with its polished aluminum body and bright red nose and tail,
5 and was a passionate member of, and advocate for, the Pearson Field
6 community; and

7 WHEREAS, John never did anything halfway, was never at a loss for
8 words, and never met a challenge he could not overcome, and will be
9 remembered by many in Clark County as an amazing strategic thinker
10 who always had time for everyone; and

11 WHEREAS, John was a man of strong faith and a dedicated husband
12 who lit up at the very mention of his beloved wife Nancy, to whom he
13 was married for more than 40 years, as well as a proud father of
14 Megan and Jennifer and a grandfather, to which family we extend our
15 most heartfelt sympathies; and

16 WHEREAS, We also extend our deepest sympathies to the family of
17 Irene Mustain, who was the passenger on John's plane and for whom he
18 was performing his final selfless act of service to the widow of a
19 United States Air Force veteran;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
21 honor and remember the life and legacy of John McKibbin, dedicated
22 public servant and leader, who will be missed by his family, friends,
23 and those who had the good fortune of meeting him and working with
24 him; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
26 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to John
27 McKibbin's wife, Nancy McKibbin; and to his two daughters, Megan and
28 Jennifer.

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