

SENATE RESOLUTION

8610

By Senators Mullet, Fain, and Frockt

1 WHEREAS, The students of Tahoma High School enrolled in the We
2 the People: The Citizen and Constitution program have exhibited
3 superior knowledge of the Constitution of the United States and the
4 lessons taught by our forefathers; and

5 WHEREAS, On Saturday, January 7, 2017, the state "We the People"
6 competition was won by the team from Tahoma High School, marking the
7 school's 20th state championship; and

8 WHEREAS, These students will represent their state at the 30th
9 anniversary "We the People" finals in Washington, D.C., where they
10 will aspire to uphold the standards of excellence for which Tahoma
11 High School is known; and

12 WHEREAS, These students have immersed themselves in the United
13 States Constitution and Bill of Rights, and their extraordinary
14 understanding of the country's founding documents and principles and
15 formidable debate skills have inspired those who have watched them
16 progress to the level of state champions; and

17 WHEREAS, The Tahoma team is coached by Gretchen Wulfing, who was
18 named Washington's Civic Educator of the Year in 2011 and who
19 continues to ingrain in her students the importance of learning about
20 American constitutional democracy and the contemporary relevance of
21 the nation's founding documents and principles; and

22 WHEREAS, Studies have shown that 80 percent of high school
23 seniors in the program are registered to vote, compared to an average

1 of 37 percent among other high school seniors, proof that "We
2 the People" instills greater interest in participating in
3 government; and

4 WHEREAS, Tahoma High School has a distinguished record of
5 excellence in competitions at the national level, placing fourth
6 in the nation in 2000; capturing the Western Regional Award in
7 2001, 2008, and 2014; taking the top Unit Two in the Nation
8 Award in 2003; placing in the top ten in 2012 and 2013; and
9 earning the top Unit Five in the Nation Award in 2010 and 2011;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, In 2015 the Tahoma team finished fourth in the
12 nation, posting the highest finish in school and state history,
13 and in 2016 Tahoma finished ninth in the nation. Tahoma has now
14 advanced teams to the top ten in the nation four times;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
16 Senate honor Zoe Brown, Noah Casey, Jessica Davies, Jonathan
17 Feher, David Ferrer, Jandrea Grobbelaar, Makaila Heifner, Lydia
18 Kropelnicki, Kieran Lowe, Michelle McLoughlin, Rosella Miller,
19 Calista Moore, Taylor Murrey, Cameron Musard, Amber Neathery,
20 Ryan Nelson, Jared Perrine, James Riordan, Peter Seely, Matthew
21 Simmons, Everett Wall, Benjamin Weaver, and Tierra Wilson as
22 "Warriors of the Constitution"; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
24 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
25 members of Tahoma High School's "We the People" team, to team
26 advisor Gretchen Wulfing, and to Tahoma High School principal
27 Terry Duty to convey the respect of this body for a job well
28 done and to wish them success in their continuing endeavors.

29 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
30 do hereby certify that this is a true and
31 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8610,
32 adopted by the Senate
33 February 1, 2017

34 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
35 Secretary of the Senate