

SENATE RESOLUTION

8621

By Senator Honeyford

1 WHEREAS, Washington agriculture generates 10.2 billion dollars
2 annually and is a cornerstone of the Washington state economy; and

3 WHEREAS, Washington FFA members' continuous efforts culminated in
4 a record-setting five chapters being named as national finalists in
5 the national chapter awards program, which recognizes the top ten
6 chapters in the nation in four qualifying areas out of the 7,859
7 chapters nationwide; and

8 WHEREAS, The Yelm chapter was named the national winner in Models
9 of Excellence and the Omak chapter was named the national winner of
10 Models of Innovation Chapter Development, at the 2016 National FFA
11 Convention; and

12 WHEREAS, Washington FFA members contribute to the nationally
13 generated 4.4 billion dollars through their Supervised Agricultural
14 Experience programs, which are an extension of their classroom
15 instruction; and

16 WHEREAS, National FFA week is celebrated annually nationwide
17 during the week of George Washington's birthday, in celebration of
18 his legacy as an agriculturalist, and to emphasize the importance of
19 the foundation of agriculture to FFA members; and

20 WHEREAS, The FFA motto: "Learning to do, doing to learn, earning
21 to live, living to serve" gives direction and purpose to students who
22 take an active role in succeeding in agricultural education; and

1 WHEREAS, FFA promotes citizenship, volunteerism, patriotism,
2 and cooperation through approximately 482,000 service hours
3 which equates to an economic impact of over 10.9 million dollars
4 nationally; and

5 WHEREAS, Agricultural education and FFA ensure a steady
6 supply of young professionals to meet the growing needs of
7 science, business, and technology in the agricultural industry;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Agricultural education is the original science,
10 technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education model, and
11 agricultural education is celebrating 100 years as a result of
12 the Smith-Hughes Act influencing more than 50,000 Washington
13 students enrolled in agricultural education courses annually;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Washington FFA week is recognized by over 9,000
16 members statewide;

17 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington state
18 Senate recognize Washington's FFA members and their excellence
19 in the agricultural field during the celebration of FFA week,
20 February 18th through 25th.

21 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
22 do hereby certify that this is a true and
23 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8621,
24 adopted by the Senate
25 February 22, 2017

26 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
27 Secretary of the Senate