

SENATE RESOLUTION

8712

By Senator Hawkins

1 WHEREAS, Washington's apple industry is a major contributor to  
2 the economic health of both the state and its people; and

3 WHEREAS, The Wenatchee Valley is preparing to celebrate the 99th  
4 annual Washington State Apple Blossom Festival to take place from  
5 April 26th through May 6th; and

6 WHEREAS, The Apple Blossom Festival, which began as a one-day  
7 gathering of poetry and song in Wenatchee's Memorial Park, is one of  
8 the oldest major festivals in the state, first celebrated in 1919  
9 when Mrs. E. Wagner organized the first Blossom Day; and

10 WHEREAS, The Apple Blossom Festival celebrates the importance of  
11 the apple industry in the Wenatchee Valley and its environs; and

12 WHEREAS, The Apple Blossom Festival recognizes three young women  
13 who by their superior and distinctive efforts have exemplified the  
14 spirit and meaning of the Apple Blossom Festival; and

15 WHEREAS, These three young women were selected to reign over the  
16 Apple Blossom Festival and serve as ambassadors to the outlying  
17 communities as princesses and queen; and

18 WHEREAS, Sophie Castillo has been selected to represent her  
19 community as a 2018 Apple Blossom Princess, in part for her strong  
20 academic performance and extracurricular activities, including being  
21 an international top twenty finalist in marketing communications with  
22 DECA, a varsity golfer, a tutor at a local elementary school, and a  
23 Key Club member who participates in model United Nations, mock trial

1 and FBLA, and the local TedDriven fund-raiser for cancer research and  
2 for her dedication to the community where she has always lived; and

3 WHEREAS, Jessica Murray has been selected to represent her  
4 community as a 2018 Apple Blossom Princess, in part for her community  
5 service, including being high school activities coordinator and co-  
6 president of Random Acts of Kindness, her extracurricular activities,  
7 including volunteering at a local humane society, leading freshman  
8 Ignite Orientation groups, and being a Math is Cool instructor, and  
9 her lasting commitment to a community that has given her so much; and

10 WHEREAS, Gretta Wiersma has been selected to represent her  
11 community as the 2018 Apple Blossom Queen, in part for her  
12 accomplishments as senior class president, serving as sports editor  
13 for her school's newspaper, participating in varsity soccer and track  
14 her entire high school career, her involvement with Young Life, Honor  
15 Society, and Random Acts of Kindness, and her passion and love for  
16 the people of the Wenatchee Valley; and

17 WHEREAS, These three young women desire to share their proven  
18 talents and leadership ambition to serve their community and  
19 encourage those they encounter;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate  
21 honor the accomplishments of the members of the Apple Blossom  
22 Festival Court and join the Wenatchee Valley and the people of the  
23 state of Washington in celebrating the Washington State Apple Blossom  
24 Festival; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
26 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Queen  
27 Gretta Wiersma, Princess Sophie Castillo, Princess Jessica Murray,  
28 and the board of directors and chairs of the Washington State Apple  
29 Blossom Festival.

--- END ---