
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8422

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senators M. Rasmussen and Erwin; by request of Secretary of State
Read first time 01/25/94. Referred to Committee on Trade, Technology
& Economic Development.

1 WHEREAS, On July 17, 1897, the Steamer Portland arrived in Seattle,
2 Washington, loaded with two tons of gold, thus starting the race to the
3 Klondike gold fields; and

4 WHEREAS, Thousands of prospectors headed North to Skagway, Alaska,
5 and the Klondike region of the Yukon Territory, using Seattle to outfit
6 nearly seven thousand men and sixty-four vessels, heading Northward in
7 the first sixty-eight days; and

8 WHEREAS, Hundreds of Washington businesses shared their early
9 beginnings as suppliers to these fortune seekers, and continue today to
10 support the thousands of tourists that pass through Washington state on
11 their way to the Province of British Columbia, the Yukon Territory, and
12 the state of Alaska, bringing millions of dollars into the economy of
13 Washington state; and

14 WHEREAS, The Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park maintains
15 a Seattle unit that is actively engaged in Northwest tourism and tells
16 the story of this remarkable human event that helped shape the early
17 history of Washington state and the Pacific Northwest region; and

18 WHEREAS, The state of Washington shares a large part of its history
19 with the state of Alaska and the Canadian Province of British Columbia
20 and the Yukon Territory; and

1 WHEREAS, Trade, commerce, and tourism in the state of Washington is
2 a major part of our economic base;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the state of
4 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Office of
5 the Secretary of State be directed to coordinate the Centennial events
6 commemorating the Klondike Gold Rush with the state of Alaska and the
7 Canadian Province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Office of the Secretary of State
9 be directed to appoint an advisory committee that includes, but is not
10 limited to, representatives of the Division of Tourism, the Office of
11 the Lieutenant Governor, the Washington State Historical Society, and
12 other agencies so designated by the Governor to work in close
13 cooperation with the National Park Service, the state of Alaska, and
14 the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Washington state's centennial
16 celebration of the Klondike Gold Rush will be held during the years of
17 1996, 1997, and 1998 in cooperation with celebrations in the state of
18 Alaska, the Province of British Columbia, and the Yukon Territory.

--- END ---