

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8027**

53rd Legislature  
1994 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate February 8, 1994  
YEAS 45 NAYS 0

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 2, 1994  
YEAS 96 NAYS 0

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**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Approved

CERTIFICATE

I, Marty Brown, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8027** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Secretary**

FILED

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8027**

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Passed Legislature - 1994 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1994 Regular Session**

**By Senators Vognild, Newhouse, Moore, Amondson, Prentice, Sutherland, McAuliffe and Fraser**

Read first time 01/17/94. Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

1            TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE UNITED STATES  
5 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:

6            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
8 represent and petition as follows:

9            WHEREAS, Numerous challenges face the nation as the labor force and  
10 opportunities in the workplace change. Among states, differing  
11 circumstances reflect changing economic bases, unique demographic  
12 trends, and limitations on resources availability. States must have  
13 the flexibility and authority to design and implement economic  
14 development programs that address state-specific situations.  
15 Employment security must figure prominently in these efforts; and

16            WHEREAS, Changes in the current system of financing the operational  
17 costs of the employment security system are necessary to provide an  
18 effective national employment security system that will be able to  
19 address the ongoing challenge to remain competitive. Employment  
20 security agencies and personnel must not only provide economic  
21 assistance to those who find themselves unemployed through no fault of

1 their own, but also have the financial and human resources to put these  
2 unemployed Americans back to work; and

3 WHEREAS, Under the framework of the system outlined in the Federal  
4 Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA), state revenues finance unemployment  
5 benefits while the federal government collects a payroll tax, levied  
6 upon employers, which provides funds dedicated solely to the  
7 administration of both the federal and the state systems. The amount  
8 now being collected is more than adequate to fund the various state  
9 systems, but the amount returned to the states has been shrinking  
10 because these funds are included in the federal unified budget and  
11 therefore are subject to the domestic discretionary spending caps as  
12 required by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of  
13 1985; and

14 WHEREAS, For the past eight years, state employment security  
15 administrators have watched the decline in funding for employment  
16 security services that resulted from federal budget deficit  
17 considerations while balances in the Unemployment Trust Fund's  
18 Employment Security Administration Account grew by leaps and bounds,  
19 only serving to mask the size of the federal deficit; and

20 WHEREAS, In the last five years the average yearly balance of the  
21 Employment Security Administration Account was \$1.68 billion, in 1993  
22 the projected balance is \$1.93 billion, and in 1994 the projection is  
23 for \$1.96 billion; and

24 WHEREAS, In the recent recession, state employment security  
25 agencies could have moved more quickly to put unemployed Americans back  
26 to work if the agencies were being adequately funded from the  
27 Employment Security Administration Account;

28 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress:

29 (1) Remove the dedicated FUTA trust fund money from the federal  
30 unified budget;

31 (2) Exclude from the calculation of the federal budget deficit  
32 balances in the Unemployment Trust Fund financed from dedicated  
33 revenues;

34 (3) Make decisions about spending for extended unemployment  
35 benefits and administration of employment and unemployment programs on  
36 their merits and not federal budget deficit reduction rules; and

37 (4) Provide states with the flexibility to meet the needs of  
38 unemployed Americans, particularly through better coordination between

1 the various employment and training programs and by having the ability  
2 to respond early to situations that may be unique to their state.

3 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
4 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United  
5 States, the United States Department of Labor, the President of the  
6 United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and  
7 each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

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