

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8040**

58th Legislature  
2004 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate February 12, 2004  
YEAS 49 NAYS 0

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 2, 2004  
YEAS 95 NAYS 0

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Milton H. Doumit, Jr.,  
Secretary of the Senate of the  
State of Washington, do hereby  
certify that the attached is  
**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8040** as  
passed by the Senate and the House  
of Representatives on the dates  
hereon set forth.

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**Secretary**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8040**

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Passed Legislature - 2004 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2004 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Shin, Jacobsen, Kastama, Thibaudeau, Berkey, Fraser, Doumit, Prentice, Horn, Kohl-Welles, Kline, Fairley, Oke, Stevens, Hale, Zarelli, T. Sheldon, B. Sheldon, Schmidt, McAuliffe, Keiser, Murray, Spanel, Brown, Eide, Rasmussen, Winsley and Benton

Read first time 01/26/2004.      Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1            TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
2            AND 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:

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

8            WHEREAS, There are 670,000 veterans who have chosen to call the  
9            great State of Washington home; and

10           WHEREAS, These citizens are deserving of a world class health care  
11           system to deal with injuries and diseases resulting from their selfless  
12           service to our country; and

13           WHEREAS, Washington State has significantly fewer veterans being  
14           served by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (U.S. DVA)  
15           than other states in the nation, and in 2002 was ranked second to the  
16           last in the number of veterans receiving health care through the U.S.  
17           DVA; and

18           WHEREAS, Veterans in Washington State are being placed on waiting  
19           lists by the U.S. DVA in order to receive health care and pharmacy  
20           services; and

1       WHEREAS, The U.S. DVA national waiting list data from July 2002  
2 through September 2003 indicates the Veterans' Integrated Service  
3 Network 20, which includes Washington State, has the largest number of  
4 veterans waiting for nonemergent clinic visits; and

5       WHEREAS, An increasing number of Washington State veterans who  
6 formerly relied on alternate health care providers are finding  
7 themselves without health care and are turning to the U.S. DVA for  
8 their health care for the first time; and

9       WHEREAS, The U.S. DVA Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced  
10 Services (CARES) initiative has not fully considered the current and  
11 future need for veterans' health care services across the Veterans'  
12 Integrated Service Network; and

13       WHEREAS, It is imperative that Washington State receive adequate  
14 federal resources to care for the increasing number of veterans who  
15 will rely on the U.S. DVA for health care services;

16       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the  
17 President will ensure the U.S. DVA health care system in Washington  
18 State will be adequate to serve the current and future demands of our  
19 state's veterans. Your Memorialists further pray that Congress and the  
20 President affirm the debt owed these veterans and provide funding for  
21 those services deemed necessary.

22       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
23 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United  
24 States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Veterans  
25 Affairs, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
26 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
27 Washington.

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