

SENATE RESOLUTION
8713

By Senators Fraser, Winsley, B. Sheldon, Parlette, Benton, Berkey, Brandland, Brown, Carlson, Deccio, Doumit, Eide, Esser, Fairley, Finkbeiner, Franklin, Hale, Hargrove, Haugen, Hewitt, Honeyford, Horn, Jacobsen, Johnson, Kastama, Keiser, Kline, Kohl-Welles, McAuliffe, McCaslin, Morton, Mulliken, Murray, Oke, Pflug, Poulsen, Prentice, Rasmussen, Regala, Roach, Schmidt, Sheahan, T. Sheldon, Shin, Spanel, Stevens, Swecker, Thibaudeau and Zarelli

WHEREAS, Maryan Reynolds served as Washington's State Librarian for 24 years, from 1951 to 1975, under Governors Langlie, Rosellini, and Evans, and was passionately dedicated to disseminating knowledge and to fighting steadfastly to bring needed library and information services to people throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, As a result of her skillful and energetic leadership, the Washington State Library became one of the foremost state libraries in the nation, meeting the challenges of cutting edge technology as American society began its transition from the hard-copy information age to the electronic information age, and forging the establishment of multicounty library systems to involve communities in bringing library services to previously unserved or underserved areas; and

WHEREAS, She joined the State Library when it was crowded into the basement of the Temple of Justice, causing her to initiate establishing a separate, more appropriate State Library Building; and

WHEREAS, She brought to fruition an architectural award-winning State Library Building, designed by the renowned Washington State architect Paul Thiry, with displays of artwork by acclaimed Pacific Northwest artists, Everett Du Pen, Kenneth Callahan, Mark Toby, John Elliott, and James Fitzgerald, the building now named the Joel Pritchard Building, that currently houses the temporary Senate Chambers and other legislative offices while the Legislative Building is closed for Nisqually Earthquake repairs and renovation; and

WHEREAS, She has been called the "pole star" and the "compass point" for developing the state's library system by some, and the "Mother Lion" of the state library by others. Still others have described her as: A visionary, a dedicated library professional, an exceptional leader and mentor, a team player, one who led the charge, inspirational, having a brilliant imagination, compassionate, a tough-as-nails fighter, a workhorse, respectful, a coalition builder, strategic, one who inspired people to do their best, service-minded, a person of integrity, prodigiously energetic, a tireless legislative lobbyist, a clear thinker, a promoter of efficiency, a voracious reader, a seeker and finder of opportunities, an educator, a storyteller, an active family member, a caring friend with many deep friendships, and in short, an amazing person; and

WHEREAS, Further reflecting her commitment to disseminating knowledge, following her retirement, she wrote a book titled, "The Dynamics of Change: A History of the Washington State Library" about which, in his foreword to the book, former Governor Daniel Evans stated, "... should be required reading for any serious student of government"; and

WHEREAS, While Maryan Reynolds died of natural causes at the age of 91 on January 17, 2004, her legacy lives on in the institutions and services she helped build, in the continuing dedication of those with whom she worked, in the lives of those she inspired, and in the lives of all Washingtonians who now, and in the future will benefit from all she dreamed and all she achieved;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate celebrate the life of former State Librarian Maryan Reynolds and recognize her devotion to public service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to her family members, to the State Library, to the Friends of the State Library, to the Washington Library Association, the American Library Association, the American Association of State Library Agencies, the Pacific Northwest Library Association, the Olympia Branch of the American Association of University Women, the State Capitol Historical Association, and the Honorable Albert Rosellini and the Honorable Dan Evans, former Governors of the State of Washington.

I, Milton H. Doumit, Jr., Secretary of the Senate,
do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8713,
adopted by the Senate
March 4, 2004

MILTON H. DOUMIT, JR.
Secretary of the Senate