By Senators Frockt, Bailey, Miloscia, Nelson, Habib, Baumgartner, McAuliffe, and Fraser

1 WHEREAS, Five years ago this spring, the state of Washington 2 enacted RCW 28B.77.240, expanding access to affordable bachelor's and 3 master's degrees for Washington residents through the creation of 4 online, competency-based Western Governors University Washington (WGU 5 Washington); and

6 WHEREAS, WGU Washington offers high-quality, career-focused 7 degree programs in fields vital to the state's economy, including 8 business, health professions, teaching, and information technology; 9 and

10 WHEREAS, WGU Washington contributes to the Washington Student 11 Achievement Council's educational attainment goal of at least seventy 12 percent of Washington adults achieving a postsecondary credential by 13 2023; and

14 WHEREAS, WGU Washington has experienced an enrollment increase of 15 one thousand percent since 2011, growing to more than eight thousand 16 five hundred full-time students and making Washington home to more 17 WGU students than any other state in the nation; and

WHEREAS, WGU Washington has awarded more than five thousand one hundred degrees to hard-working, motivated men and women, helping develop the business leaders, nurses, teachers, and information technology professionals needed to keep Washington's economy strong; and 1 WHEREAS, WGU Washington is committed to helping 2 Washingtonians achieve their dreams for a university degree and 3 career success;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
Senate honor the fifth anniversary of WGU Washington, and
recognize its important role in providing our state's population
with high-quality and career-focused education.

8 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,

9 do hereby certify that this is a true and

10 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8726,

11 adopted by the Senate

12 February 23, 2016

- 13 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
- 14 Secretary of the Senate