

SENATE RESOLUTION

8616

By Senators Honeyford, Billig, Chase, Hasegawa, Conway, Becker, Warnick, Mullet, King, Miloscia, Angel, Hobbs, Baumgartner, Takko, Braun, Nelson, O'Ban, Rivers, Brown, Cleveland, Schoesler, Padden, Rolfes, Fain, Bailey, Sheldon, Short, and Pearson

1       WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol was commissioned December 1, 1941,  
2 just days before the attack on Pearl Harbor, for the purpose of  
3 liaison flying and interdiction of infiltrators on the east coast and  
4 southern border of the United States; and from then on the Civil Air  
5 Patrol insignia, a red three-bladed propeller in the Civil Defense  
6 white-triangle-in-blue-circle, began appearing; and

7       WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol has now been in commission for 75  
8 years; and

9       WHEREAS, When German submarines began to prey on American ships,  
10 the Civil Air Patrol's mission grew to include a 1,000-member coastal  
11 patrol, 64 of whom died in service and 26 of whom were lost at sea;  
12 and

13       WHEREAS, After a crew was forced to watch in vain as a grounded  
14 submarine off Cape Canaveral, Florida escaped before the military  
15 arrived, Civil Air Patrol planes were issued bombs and depth charges,  
16 and thereafter the Civil Air Patrol coastal patrol flew 24 million  
17 miles and found 173 submarines, ultimately attacking 57 and hitting  
18 10; and

19       WHEREAS, On April 28, 1943, by presidential executive order, the  
20 Civil Air Patrol became an auxiliary of the United States Army Air  
21 Forces, and several months later the Germans withdrew coastal U-boat  
22 operations "because of those damned little red and yellow airplanes";  
23 and

1           WHEREAS, During the postwar years, the Civil Air Patrol was  
2 put to work in search and rescue missions, saving the United  
3 States millions of dollars in operational costs as the only  
4 organization with the equipment and training to perform this  
5 vital job, with military aircraft being far too expensive to  
6 operate and flying too fast to accurately spot downed planes and  
7 personnel; and

8           WHEREAS, During the deadly 2014 highway 530 mudslide in  
9 Darrington, Washington, the Civil Air Patrol flew vital supplies  
10 to areas unreachable by heavier aircraft; and ground teams  
11 helped to evacuate cities and towns, maintained the Temporary  
12 Flight Restriction over the area, and provided high-bird  
13 communications for other agencies; and

14           WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol's National Cell Phone  
15 Forensics Team and National Radar Analysis Team, which used  
16 cutting-edge technology to complement the efforts of searchers  
17 in the air and on the ground for missing airplanes and  
18 individuals, were credited by the Air Force Rescue Coordination  
19 Center with saving 70 lives in fiscal year 2016; and

20           WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program, celebrating its  
21 75th year in 2017, has over 24,000 participants between the ages  
22 of 12 and 20, one of its major attractions being its aerospace  
23 program, which provides both classroom and practical instruction  
24 in flight and rocketry, and offers each cadet the opportunity to  
25 participate in orientation flights in both powered and glider  
26 aircraft while learning search and rescue techniques and other  
27 valuable skills, emphasizing military history, leadership,  
28 science, technology, engineering, and math education, and  
29 "service before self" to members' community, state, and nation;  
30 and

31           WHEREAS, Today's Civil Air Patrol continues its service and  
32 commitment to our state and country with three primary missions:  
33 Aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services; and

34           WHEREAS, The Washington Wing's commitment to service  
35 includes three nationally recognized leaders: 2014 Chaplain of  
36 the Year, (Lt. Col.) Dave Franklin; 2015 Legislative Squadron  
37 Commander of the Year, Senator (Lt. Col.) Jim Honeyford; and

1 2016 Public Affairs Officer of the Year, (Capt.) Jessica Jerwa,  
2 along with the many officers and cadets; and

3 WHEREAS, In Washington State alone, the Civil Air Patrol is  
4 composed of approximately 744 senior members and 626 cadets,  
5 adding up to 144 volunteer aircrew personnel and 779 emergency  
6 responders who, in 2016 alone, flew their 14 aircraft 1,537  
7 hours in service to our state, a value of 4.9 million dollars in  
8 volunteer hours; and

9 WHEREAS, The McChord Composite Squadron Color Guard, located  
10 at McChord Field, Joint Base Lewis-McChord and comprised of  
11 youth Cadet members, have volunteered their time to represent  
12 the Civil Air Patrol's state headquarters while presenting the  
13 colors;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State  
15 Senate recognize the Washington State wing of the Civil Air  
16 Patrol for its courageous and unwavering dedication to our  
17 citizens; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
19 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to  
20 Colonel James P. Furlong, Commander of the Civil Air Patrol  
21 Washington Wing.

22 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,  
23 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
24 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8616,  
25 adopted by the Senate  
26 April 13, 2017

27 HUNTER G. GOODMAN  
28 Secretary of the Senate