

SENATE RESOLUTION

8654

By Senator Rossi

1 WHEREAS, Washington is our nation's second largest producer of
2 premium wine; and

3 WHEREAS, Today, the Washington wine industry has achieved
4 international fame for its outstanding wine products, with Washington
5 wine being shipped to all 50 states and to more than 40 countries
6 across the world; and

7 WHEREAS, Washington wines now contribute more than 4.8 billion
8 dollars annually to our state's economy and support over 25,000 jobs
9 in every corner of our state; and

10 WHEREAS, Washington is now home to over 350 growers of wine
11 grapes and over 900 wineries, which span nearly 50,000 acres of
12 choice vineyard land planted with vinifera grapes in fourteen
13 officially designated American Viticultural Areas: Ancient Lakes,
14 Columbia Gorge, Columbia Valley, Horse Heaven Hills, Lake Chelan,
15 Lewis-Clark Valley, Naches Heights, Puget Sound, Rattlesnake Hills,
16 Red Mountain, Snipes Mountain, Yakima Valley, Wahluke Slope, and
17 Walla Walla Valley; and

18 WHEREAS, Ste. Michelle Wine Estates traces its roots to the
19 repeal of Prohibition and was a pioneer of vinifera grape production
20 in Washington; and

21 WHEREAS, The golden anniversary of the first Ste. Michelle wines
22 from vinifera grapes grown in eastern Washington will be celebrated
23 this year; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1974, Ste. Michelle brought global recognition
2 to the Washington wine industry, when its 1972 Riesling placed
3 first in a blind tasting held by the Los Angeles Times; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1976, Ste. Michelle opened its iconic French-
5 style winery Chateau, anchoring its home of Woodinville as a
6 premium wine destination; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1978, the Chateau Ste. Michelle estate and
8 grounds were added to the National Register of Historic Places;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Chateau Ste. Michelle opens its amphitheater as a
11 beautiful concert venue for the enjoyment of its visitors in the
12 summertime; and

13 WHEREAS, Chateau Ste. Michelle now attracts more than
14 300,000 visitors each year; and

15 WHEREAS, Chateau Ste. Michelle has been honored as Winery of
16 the Year by Wine & Spirits magazine a record twenty-two times,
17 more than any other winery in our country; and

18 WHEREAS, Chateau Ste. Michelle has a long history of giving
19 back to the industry and community by using the net proceeds
20 from its popular Summer Concert Series to help fund its
21 charitable-giving program, which supports some 400 nonprofit
22 organizations annually, and has provided more than 3 million
23 dollars for scholarships for high-achieving, low-income students
24 at Washington universities; and

25 WHEREAS, Chateau Ste. Michelle has been instrumental in the
26 development of a state-of-the-art research and teaching
27 institution for our state's wine industry, leading to the
28 establishment of the Ste. Michelle Wine Estates Wine Science
29 Center at the Washington State University campus in the Tri-
30 Cities;

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
32 Senate recognize the extraordinary achievements of Chateau Ste.
33 Michelle and the economic benefits and the luxuries it provides
34 for the people of the state of Washington; and

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
36 encourage all the citizens of Washington to visit and enjoy the
37 excellent events hosted by Chateau Ste. Michelle; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
2 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to
3 Chateau Ste. Michelle.

4 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
5 do hereby certify that this is a true and
6 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8654,
7 adopted by the Senate
8 April 17, 2017

9 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
10 Secretary of the Senate