

SENATE RESOLUTION

8703

By Senator Ranker

1           WHEREAS, Joyce Sobel was a champion for underserved children and  
2 families throughout the state of Washington and is lauded for her  
3 work as the founder of the San Juan Island Family Resource Center;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, Joyce Sobel's selfless leadership and love for travel  
6 first led her to serve in the Peace Corps after college, teaching  
7 secondary education in Kenya; and

8           WHEREAS, Upon her arrival on San Juan Island in 1975, Joyce Sobel  
9 became an outspoken advocate for underserved children on the island,  
10 supporting the well-being of families in her community above all  
11 else; and

12           WHEREAS, In Friday Harbor, Washington, Joyce Sobel envisioned an  
13 organization that ensures that every household in the San Juan Island  
14 community has the basic resources to be healthy, happy, and  
15 productive; and

16           WHEREAS, Joyce Sobel founded the San Juan Island Family Resource  
17 Center to provide her community with quality early childhood support  
18 programs that help optimize child development and family well-being;  
19 and

20           WHEREAS, Joyce Sobel served the San Juan Island community outside  
21 the Family Resource Center in numerous local organizations including  
22 the League of Women Voters, Soroptimist International, and the Friday  
23 Harbor Food Bank; and

1       WHEREAS, Due to her tireless commitment to the women and children  
2 of San Juan Island and passionate belief in the idea that together we  
3 can do so much, Joyce Sobel was recognized as the 2004 Citizen of the  
4 Year by the San Juan Journal and the 2011 Woman Who Made a Difference  
5 by the San Juan League of Women Voters; and

6       WHEREAS, Joyce Sobel remained busy well into retirement, enjoying  
7 a colorful personal life celebrating the arts, protecting her  
8 vegetable garden from deer, and discussing books over a meal with the  
9 "No Guilt, Gourmet Book Club"; and

10       WHEREAS, Joyce Sobel is remembered by her friends and family for  
11 her role in welcoming and mentoring young families in the community,  
12 helping others find their place, and understanding people and their  
13 needs better than anyone;

14       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate  
15 honors Joyce Sobel for her lifelong commitment to the women,  
16 children, and families of San Juan Island and recognizes her enduring  
17 spirit in the lives of all those she served.

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