

SENATE RESOLUTION

8719

By Senators Fain and Schoesler

1 WHEREAS, Suzette Cooke has served the City of Kent as a leader in
2 a series of important roles for more than 40 years; and

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Cooke graduated from Western Washington University
4 with a degree in recreation administration as a founding student of
5 Fairhaven College; and

6 WHEREAS, Suzette dedicated herself to the people of Kent by
7 serving as the director of the Kent Chamber of Commerce, director of
8 the Kent Senior Center, and recreation supervisor for athletics,
9 arts, and people with developmental disabilities; and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Cooke further worked on behalf of her community by
11 serving three terms as a member of the state House of Representatives
12 for Washington's 47th Legislative District; and

13 WHEREAS, Suzette Cooke was elected Kent's mayor in 2005; and

14 WHEREAS, 2017 marks the culmination of 12 years serving as mayor
15 of the City of Kent; and

16 WHEREAS, Mayor Cooke showed her dedication to numerous issues by
17 chairing the Valley Communications Center Board, the Kent Firemen's
18 Relief and Pension Fund Board, the South County Area Transportation
19 Board, and the King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, In addition to chairing four committees, Mayor Cooke
22 served as a member on regional committees, including the Puget Sound

1 Regional Council Executive Board, Seattle-King County Economic
2 Development Board, the South Sound Alliance; and

3 WHEREAS, Mayor Cooke maintained stability in the City of
4 Kent during a period of significant population growth; and

5 WHEREAS, Early in Mayor Cooke's tenure she helped pave the
6 way for the ShoWare Center, a multipurpose arena in Kent that
7 hosts a wide variety of events that bring people in from
8 surrounding areas to benefit the Kent community; and

9 WHEREAS, Mayor Cooke deftly navigated the threat of the
10 Green River flooding due to a leak in the Howard Hanson Dam and
11 protected the lives and livelihoods of people in the Green River
12 floodplain; and

13 WHEREAS, Suzette has worked tirelessly to benefit the people
14 of her community;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
16 Senate recognize Mayor Suzette Cooke's exceptional public
17 service and dedication to the people of Kent.

18 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,
19 do hereby certify that this is a true and
20 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8719,
21 adopted by the Senate
22 February 22, 2018

23 BRAD HENDRICKSON
24 Secretary of the Senate