By Senators Dhingra, Das, Palumbo, Pedersen, Liias, Salomon, Cleveland, and Darneille

WHEREAS, January 26, 2019, marks the seventieth Republic Day in 1 2 India, celebrating the adoption of the Constitution of the world's 3 largest democracy; and WHEREAS, India achieved independence from British rule through 4 5 peaceful and nonviolent resistance; and WHEREAS, The Indian Constitution asserts equality before law, and 6 7 declares "that the State shall not deny to any person equality before 8 the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India"; and 9 WHEREAS, Washington state has many cultural and economic ties to 10 India, including over sixty thousand Indian-Americans living in the 11 12 state; and 13 WHEREAS, Indian-Americans are small business owners, entrepreneurs, and CEOs of Washington companies, including the 14 founding officers of many Seattle-based tech companies; and 15 16 WHEREAS, These businesses provide useful services, resources, and jobs to the people of this state; and 17 WHEREAS, Indian-Americans have been emigrating to the West Coast 18

19 since the nineteenth century, working in our most vital industries 20 including agriculture, logging, and trade; and

21 WHEREAS, Indian-Americans serve selflessly in our armed forces 22 and in law enforcement, as well as contribute profoundly to the 1 health care industry and Washington's institutions of higher
2 education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate honor the 2019 Republic Day as a symbol of the shared values of democracy and liberty, between the nation of India and both the State of Washington and the United States of America.

- 7 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,
- 8 do hereby certify that this is a true and
- 9 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8606,
- 10 adopted by the Senate
- 11 January 25, 2019
- 12 BRAD HENDRICKSON
- 13 Secretary of the Senate