

SENATE RESOLUTION

8650

By Senators Fortunato, Padden, Ericksen, Braun, Schoesler, Honeyford, Warnick, Zeiger, Sheldon, Rivers, Short, O'Ban, Brown, Wilson, L., Walsh, Wagoner, King, and Hawkins

1 WHEREAS, Ukraine is a diverse nation home to Ukrainians, Crimean
2 Tatars, Jews, Poles, and other ethnic groups; and

3 WHEREAS, Washington state is now home to over 70,000 Ukrainian
4 Americans, being the fifth-largest Ukrainian diaspora in the United
5 States; and

6 WHEREAS, Many Ukrainians immigrated to Washington fleeing Soviet
7 persecution for their beliefs, seeking personal and religious
8 freedoms in the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, Ukrainian Americans living in Washington have enriched
10 our state through their leadership and contributions in agriculture,
11 business, academia, government, and the arts; and

12 WHEREAS, The Ukrainian American community shares its rich
13 history, culture, traditions, and gastronomy with numerous events
14 such as the Northwest Ukrainian International Festival organized by
15 the Pacific Ukrainian Society, which is the largest Ukrainian
16 cultural event on the West Coast; and

17 WHEREAS, The state of Washington supports the Ukrainian American
18 community in its endeavors to preserve Ukrainian culture, traditions,
19 and language for future generations who call the United States home;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, The state of Washington seeks to expand its relationship
22 with Ukraine through increased economic, cultural, and educational
23 cooperation;

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
2 recognize the important role Ukrainian Americans play in the civic,
3 cultural, and economic life of Washington state, and join in the
4 celebration of their Independence Day; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
6 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
7 Honorary Consul of Ukraine in Seattle and to the Embassy of Ukraine
8 in the United States of America for appropriate distribution.

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