

SENATE RESOLUTION

8638

By Senator Shewmake

1 WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of
2 South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United
3 States in the 19th century; and

4 WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world, with
5 nearly 30,000,000 adherents from around the world, including
6 approximately 700,000 members in the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, Sikh families in the United States pursue diverse
8 professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the
9 economic vibrancy of the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, Washington State takes pride in being a place where all
11 faiths and cultures are welcomed, respected, and celebrated; and

12 WHEREAS, During the month of April, the Sikh community celebrates
13 Vaisakhi, also known as Khalsa Day, which marks the beginning of the
14 harvest season and the Sikh New Year; and

15 WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days
16 in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a
17 fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate of the state of
19 Washington wish our Sikh American community a very joyous Vaisakhi
20 Celebration.

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