

SENATE RESOLUTION

8694

By Senators Lovick and Hasegawa

1 WHEREAS, The United States was founded on the idea that public
2 discourse is a necessary part of democracy; and

3 WHEREAS, A strong democracy depends on an informed and engaged
4 public willing to listen, question, and engage respectfully with
5 people who hold different perspectives; and

6 WHEREAS, Young people are not merely future participants in civic
7 life but current stakeholders, and providing students with real
8 opportunities to practice civil discourse strengthens both their
9 education and the democratic system itself; and

10 WHEREAS, Classroom-based civic education that emphasizes media
11 literacy, respectful debate, and collaboration across differences
12 helps students better understand the responsibilities that come with
13 democratic participation and prepares them for active citizenship;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington state Senate
15 celebrate the value of civil, open-minded discussion aimed at
16 building bridges in order to depolarize the community, strengthen
17 relationships, and improve our ability to coexist; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington state Senate
19 recognize and commend the students of Marysville Getchell High
20 School, particularly those in Mr. Natterstad's Advanced Placement
21 Government class, for their thoughtful engagement with issues of
22 political polarization, media literacy, and democratic participation;
23 and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington state Senate
2 acknowledge the partnership between Mr. Natterstad's Advanced
3 Placement Government class and the building bridges program for
4 creating space where students can practice respectful dialogue,
5 critical thinking, and civic responsibility; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
7 transmitted to Marysville Getchell High School, Mr. Natterstad,
8 the students of the Advanced Placement Government class, and the
9 building bridges program.

10 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,
11 do hereby certify that this is a true and
12 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8694,
13 adopted by the Senate
14 February 23, 2026

15 SARAH BANNISTER
16 Secretary of the Senate