

SENATE RESOLUTION

8654

By Senators Hobbs, Hasegawa, Darneille, Randall, Takko, Honeyford, O'Ban, Padden, Palumbo, Wilson, C., Liias, Kuderer, Saldaña, King, Sheldon, and Lovelett

1 WHEREAS, More than 50 years ago, Eunice Kennedy Shriver saw how
2 unjustly people with intellectual disabilities were treated and
3 decided to take actions that led to the creation of the Special
4 Olympics; and

5 WHEREAS, Special Olympics is the world's largest sports
6 organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities,
7 providing year-round training and competitions to more than 5.3
8 million athletes and Unified Sports partners in 170 countries; and

9 WHEREAS, Special Olympics is the world's largest public health
10 organization for people with intellectual disabilities and offers a
11 wide range of free health exams and care; and

12 WHEREAS, Through the power of sports, children and adults with
13 intellectual disabilities discover new strengths, abilities,
14 confidence, and success on the playing field and in life; and

15 WHEREAS, Special Olympics Washington is a catalyst for inclusion
16 and provides sports and health programs year-round for 18,000
17 children and adults with intellectual disabilities; and

18 WHEREAS, Lake Stevens exemplifies the community leadership needed
19 to provide opportunity, resources, and respect for a segment of our
20 community that has historically been ignored; and

21 WHEREAS, Through the support and fund-raising efforts of hometown
22 hero Chris Pratt, local athletes like the Lake Stevens Eagles

1 Softball Team can continue to train, thrive, and share their gifts
2 and talents with the community; and

3 WHEREAS, On the 50th anniversary of the global movement, July
4 2018 marked the hosting of the every-four-years Special Olympics USA
5 Games in Seattle, Washington, gathering 4,000 athletes and coaches
6 from across the nation to compete in 14 Olympic-type sports; and

7 WHEREAS, The Lake Stevens Eagles competed in the Special Olympics
8 USA Games in July 2018, representing Lake Stevens and Washington
9 State in softball; and

10 WHEREAS, The Lake Stevens Eagles placed fourth in the nation in
11 softball at the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games; and

12 WHEREAS, Since 2013, the team has taken home either a gold or
13 silver medal at the annual Special Olympics Washington State Softball
14 Tournament;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
16 recognize the Lake Stevens Eagles; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
18 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
19 Governor, Mayor of Lake Stevens, and Special Olympics Washington.

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