

SENATE RESOLUTION

8674

By Senators Short, Schoesler, Holy, Warnick, Walsh, Honeyford, Billig, and Brown

1 WHEREAS, George R. Nethercutt, Jr. was born and raised in Spokane
2 where he attended North Central High School. He earned his bachelor's
3 degree in English from Washington State University and his Law Degree
4 from Gonzaga University; and

5 WHEREAS, George and his wife, Mary Beth, welcomed two children,
6 Meredith and Elliott, into their family; and

7 WHEREAS, Faith, family, community, education, leadership, and
8 mentorship continue to be at the forefront of his life and legacy;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, During George's eighteen years as a lawyer, he provided
11 legal support for over two thousand adoptions, helping to transform
12 individuals into loving parents to bring joy and security to adoptive
13 children and families; and

14 WHEREAS, Soon after his daughter was diagnosed with diabetes, he
15 became President of the Spokane Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes
16 Foundation, an organization tasked with helping to fund research,
17 expanding access to treatment, and bringing awareness to juvenile
18 diabetes; and

19 WHEREAS, Witnessing the significant need that existed in Spokane
20 for a respite care facility to protect children from abuse and
21 provide support to families, George became a founding member of the
22 Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery; since its inception in 1987, the

1 nursery has impacted the lives of 103,000 children and their
2 families; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1994, George entered a three-way primary to
4 become the Republican candidate for the 5th Congressional
5 District. He became only the second person in United States
6 history to defeat a sitting Speaker of the United States House
7 of Representatives. George went on to serve the 5th
8 Congressional District from 1995-2004; and

9 WHEREAS, During his tenure in Congress, George was named by
10 the Speaker of the House of Representatives as first cochairman
11 of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus; and

12 WHEREAS, Further, he served on the prestigious
13 Appropriations committee, Science Committee, and Energy and
14 Space & Aeronautics subcommittees. He increased open trade with
15 foreign countries, appropriations to bring high-technology
16 capability to the United States Defense Department, worked side-
17 by-side with farmers to bring independence and freedom back into
18 farming, and developed cutting edge collaborative pilot projects
19 between the timber industry and the Forest Service that improved
20 forest health, wildlife habitat, and the local economy; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1996, George formed a foundation whose mission
22 was to foster understanding of government and public policies in
23 young adults; offering unprecedented opportunities to engage
24 with elected officials, issue advocates, government leaders, and
25 the national press; and

26 WHEREAS, After his career in Congress, he continued his
27 mission of educating younger generations on civics, active
28 citizenship and service, the importance of understanding how
29 government works, and why our country's history is so important
30 to its future; and

31 WHEREAS, George also authored the book entitled "In Tune
32 with America - Our History in Song" that detailed significant
33 events, trials and attributions, outstanding leaders, and heroic
34 acts;

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
36 Senate recognize George R. Nethercutt, Jr. for his service to
37 the 5th Congressional District in Congress, his dedication to
38 community, to educating young adults on the importance of

1 service and civic engagement, and his mentorship to so many who
2 learned the value of humility, patience, listening, compassion,
3 and service.

4 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,
5 do hereby certify that this is a true and
6 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8674,
7 adopted by the Senate
8 February 11, 2020

9 BRAD HENDRICKSON
10 Secretary of the Senate