

SENATE RESOLUTION

8687

By Senators Warnick, Brown, Holy, Wilson, L., Zeiger, Muzzall, Honeyford, Saldaña, Liias, Schoesler, King, Sheldon, Van De Wege, Wagoner, Das, Becker, and Hasegawa

1 WHEREAS, Agriculture is a major part of Washington State economy
2 generating over thirty billion dollars and creating over 164,000
3 jobs; and

4 WHEREAS, The United States and Washington are net exporters of
5 food; and Washington State exports 6.7 billion dollars in
6 agricultural products every year; and

7 WHEREAS, Farmers and ranchers produce the safest, most nutritious
8 and abundant food supply ever known; and

9 WHEREAS, Washington's climate, soil, and water allow us to
10 produce more food per acre than most anywhere else in the world; and

11 WHEREAS, Farmers and ranchers produce great yields despite having
12 no control over weather and limited control over crop yields; and

13 WHEREAS, Farmers and ranchers are price takers - not price
14 setters; and

15 WHEREAS, Farmers and ranchers put in many hours, sunup to
16 sundown, making sure their crops and livestock are tended
17 responsibly, taking time away from family and friends, foregoing
18 vacations; and

19 WHEREAS, Such sacrifice can take a personal toll on each
20 producer, yet they continue to steward the earth and seek new and
21 sustainable ways to operate and preserve Washington's natural
22 resources to feed consumers; and

1 WHEREAS, Ninety-five percent of Washington farms are family
2 owned and operated; and

3 WHEREAS, Washington's farm families grow over three hundred
4 different crops in both eastern and western Washington making
5 our agriculture more diverse and more complex than almost any
6 other state; and

7 WHEREAS, Washington produces and exports high quality
8 Timothy and Alfalfa hay, and livestock including cattle, horses,
9 and swine; and

10 WHEREAS, Washington is known worldwide for its production of
11 potatoes, apples, hops, and blueberries; and

12 WHEREAS, Washington is also known for its innovative
13 aquaculture and sustainable timber industry; and

14 WHEREAS, Our population directly involved in food production
15 has dropped from ninety percent in the 1800's to just two
16 percent today; and

17 WHEREAS, It is critical our population understand how our
18 country's food supply is produced;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
20 Senate recognize our agricultural producers for the hard work
21 they have done and the many sacrifices they have made for our
22 communities, our country, and the world.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Washington State Senate feels the
24 need to honor and appreciate our agriculture producers for their
25 efforts to educate the public and improve the future for our
26 agriculture producers of Washington State now and forever.

27 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,
28 do hereby certify that this is a true and
29 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8687,
30 adopted by the Senate
31 February 27, 2020

32 BRAD HENDRICKSON
33 Secretary of the Senate