

SENATE RESOLUTION

8610

By Senators Mullet, Fain, and Frockt

1 WHEREAS, The students of Tahoma High School enrolled in the We
2 the People: The Citizen and Constitution program have exhibited
3 superior knowledge of the Constitution of the United States and the
4 lessons taught by our forefathers; and

5 WHEREAS, On Saturday, January 7, 2017, the state "We the People"
6 competition was won by the team from Tahoma High School, marking the
7 school's 20th state championship; and

8 WHEREAS, These students will represent their state at the 30th
9 anniversary "We the People" finals in Washington, D.C., where they
10 will aspire to uphold the standards of excellence for which Tahoma
11 High School is known; and

12 WHEREAS, These students have immersed themselves in the United
13 States Constitution and Bill of Rights, and their extraordinary
14 understanding of the country's founding documents and principles and
15 formidable debate skills have inspired those who have watched them
16 progress to the level of state champions; and

17 WHEREAS, The Tahoma team is coached by Gretchen Wulfing, who was
18 named Washington's Civic Educator of the Year in 2011 and who
19 continues to ingrain in her students the importance of learning about
20 American constitutional democracy and the contemporary relevance of
21 the nation's founding documents and principles; and

22 WHEREAS, Studies have shown that 80 percent of high school
23 seniors in the program are registered to vote, compared to an average

1 of 37 percent among other high school seniors, proof that "We the
2 People" instills greater interest in participating in government; and
3 WHEREAS, Tahoma High School has a distinguished record of
4 excellence in competitions at the national level, placing fourth in
5 the nation in 2000; capturing the Western Regional Award in 2001,
6 2008, and 2014; taking the top Unit Two in the Nation Award in 2003;
7 placing in the top ten in 2012 and 2013; and earning the top Unit
8 Five in the Nation Award in 2010 and 2011; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2015 the Tahoma team finished fourth in the nation,
10 posting the highest finish in school and state history, and in 2016
11 Tahoma finished ninth in the nation. Tahoma has now advanced teams to
12 the top ten in the nation four times;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
14 honor Zoe Brown, Noah Casey, Jessica Davies, Jonathan Feher, David
15 Ferrer, Jandrea Grobbelaar, Makaila Heifner, Lydia Kropelnicki,
16 Kieran Lowe, Michelle McLoughlin, Rosella Miller, Calista Moore,
17 Taylor Murrey, Cameron Musard, Amber Neathery, Ryan Nelson, Jared
18 Perrine, James Riordan, Peter Seely, Matthew Simmons, Everett Wall,
19 Benjamin Weaver, and Tierra Wilson as "Warriors of the Constitution";
20 and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
22 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the members
23 of Tahoma High School's "We the People" team, to team advisor
24 Gretchen Wulfing, and to Tahoma High School principal Terry Duty to
25 convey the respect of this body for a job well done and to wish them
26 success in their continuing endeavors.

--- END ---