

SENATE RESOLUTION
8680

By Senators Rolfes, Eide, Frockt, Ranker, Pridemore, Schoesler, Holmquist Newbry, Kline, Kohl-Welles, Harper, Carrell, Conway, Keiser, Swecker, Becker, Morton, Roach, Honeyford, Sheldon, Shin, Fraser, Zarelli, and Chase

WHEREAS, The Washington State Senate joins with people across our great state and our nation to recognize the sacrifices our veterans have made, during both time of war and time of peace; and

WHEREAS, Over 670,000 veterans choose to live in the state of Washington, including over 47,000 women veterans; and

WHEREAS, Their service to our country during both times of peace and times of conflict ensure that America remains a symbol of freedom and democracy across the world, and the work of our military forces exemplifies the discipline, focus, and sacrifices it takes to achieve success; and

WHEREAS, Many veterans actively continue to serve our country, by advocating for fellow veterans through a variety of service organizations, by utilizing their skills to start small businesses in our communities, and by serving in political office or as community leaders; and

WHEREAS, The burden of military service is born by a small percentage of Americans who bravely give their time and talent to their country, and by their families who support them through long absences;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate honors the clear demonstration of leadership, ability, and unstinting bravery of our veterans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate expresses its deep appreciation to the dedicated families of these men and women; and to the people in our communities who dedicate their time, talents, and resources to comfort, assist, and honor these patriotic citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to President Barack Obama; Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta; Secretary of State Hillary Clinton; General Martin Dempsey, Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Joint Base Lewis-McChord Commander Major General Lloyd Miles; Navy Region Northwest Commander Rear Admiral Douglass T. Biesel; Washington Governor Chris Gregoire and First Gentleman Mike Gregoire; Washington National Guard Adjutant General Timothy J. Lowenberg; and Washington Department of Veterans Affairs Director John E. Lee.