

SENATE RESOLUTION

8657

By Senator Sefzik

1 WHEREAS, Jason Thompson and Ryan Rathbun serve as deputies in the
2 Whatcom County Sheriff's Department; and

3 WHEREAS, Both are recovering from grievous injuries suffered
4 February 10th when they responded to a police call of shots fired
5 during a dispute between neighbors in the Maple Falls area; and

6 WHEREAS, The deputies confronted the suspect, identified
7 themselves, and asked the suspect to put down his weapon; and

8 WHEREAS, The suspect allegedly shot one deputy in the head,
9 prompting the second deputy to return fire, and the second deputy
10 also was shot in the head; and

11 WHEREAS, Two neighboring residents, Jesse Marshall and Cody
12 Deeter, assisted the officers in providing cover enabling Deputy
13 Rathbun to pull Deputy Thompson to safety; and

14 WHEREAS, Neighbor Robert Deeter, despite being in a potential
15 line of fire, provided first aid to the injured deputies; and

16 WHEREAS, The two injured deputies were treated at PeaceHealth St.
17 Joseph Medical Center in Bellingham, and one received further
18 treatment at Harborview Medical Center, and both have been released;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, The incident demonstrated the great risks faced by law
21 enforcement officers every day as they work to reduce crime and keep
22 our communities safe;

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
2 Senate recognize with gratitude the service of Deputy Thompson
3 and Deputy Rathbun and wish them a full recovery from their
4 injuries; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
6 recognize the dedicated and often dangerous work of our state's
7 law enforcement officers and their continual selfless acts of
8 sacrifice and bravery to build safer and stronger communities
9 statewide.

10 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,
11 do hereby certify that this is a true and
12 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8657,
13 adopted by the Senate
14 February 24, 2022

15 SARAH BANNISTER
16 Secretary of the Senate