

SENATE RESOLUTION

8663

By Senators Honeyford, Brown, Conway, Hasegawa, Keiser, and Van De Wege

1 WHEREAS, Brian Sims was born in Seattle in 1953 and grew up in
2 Burien, and he and his family resided in Olympia; and

3 WHEREAS, He earned his bachelor's degree in communication at
4 Washington State University in 1976; and

5 WHEREAS, Brian secured his Master of Science degree in Innovation
6 and Creative Thinking at the State University of New York at Buffalo
7 in 1980; and

8 WHEREAS, He furthered his education by earning a Master of Social
9 Policy at the University of Washington in 1984, focusing on Public
10 Policy and Finance; and

11 WHEREAS, Brian first began work at the Washington State Senate in
12 1998, and was promoted to Senate Fiscal Coordinator in 2008; and

13 WHEREAS, During the Great Recession, he worked diligently to help
14 Washington recover and improve its long-term fiscal health; and

15 WHEREAS, He came up with the idea for the State Efficiency and
16 Restructuring Account (SERA) to save money; and

17 WHEREAS, Brian did comprehensive analysis related to the closure
18 of Fircrest school and helped the state make a significant
19 conservation purchase in Teanaway; and

20 WHEREAS, Brian was instrumental in developing legislation to aid
21 small schools that had limited tax bases, taking a specific interest
22 in the Mt. Adams school district in the middle of the Yakama

1 reservation and helping to bring a new state of the art facility
2 to the small community; and

3 WHEREAS, Brian was known affectionately as "Senator Sims,"
4 due to the great impact he had on policy as an out-of-the-box
5 thinker who could put complex ideas into policy language that
6 made a difference; and

7 WHEREAS, Brian was a dedicated mentor to many of the Ways &
8 Means Committee staffers, and was extraordinarily generous with
9 his time, using it to help many other analysts hone their
10 skills; and

11 WHEREAS, During his retirement his generosity continued
12 toward the youth in his community, with Brian working to
13 mobilize and empower student voices through his role with the
14 Washington State School Directors' Association, supporting young
15 people tackling the Pacific Crest Trail, and teaching several
16 high school students learning tractor driving, garlic planting
17 and harvesting, cider apple care, fence building, and other
18 critical farm hand duties; and

19 WHEREAS, Brian was beloved by his mother, Barbara Sims, and
20 will be missed dearly; and

21 WHEREAS, Brian Sims was a loving husband to his wife Lisa, a
22 remarkable father to Evan, Mackenzie, and Taylor, and a proud
23 grandfather to Orion;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That this resolution is
25 offered in memory of our friend and colleague Brian Sims and in
26 honor of his legacy throughout the Senate; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
28 express its deepest gratitude for the 18 years of service as an
29 extraordinarily creative fiscal analyst to the Legislature, and
30 for the many more years of service given to his greater
31 community and the people of the State of Washington.

32 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,
33 do hereby certify that this is a true and
34 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8663,
35 adopted by the Senate
36 March 8, 2022

- 1 SARAH BANNISTER
- 2 Secretary of the Senate