

SENATE RESOLUTION

8616

By Senators Honeyford, Billig, Chase, Hasegawa, Conway, Becker, Warnick, Mullet, King, Miloscia, Angel, Hobbs, Baumgartner, Takko, Braun, Nelson, O'Ban, Rivers, Brown, Cleveland, Schoesler, Padden, Rolfes, Fain, Bailey, Sheldon, Short, and Pearson

1 WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol was commissioned December 1, 1941,
2 just days before the attack on Pearl Harbor, for the purpose of
3 liaison flying and interdiction of infiltrators on the east coast and
4 southern border of the United States; and from then on the Civil Air
5 Patrol insignia, a red three-bladed propeller in the Civil Defense
6 white-triangle-in-blue-circle, began appearing; and

7 WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol has now been in commission for 75
8 years; and

9 WHEREAS, When German submarines began to prey on American ships,
10 the Civil Air Patrol's mission grew to include a 1,000-member coastal
11 patrol, 64 of whom died in service and 26 of whom were lost at sea;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, After a crew was forced to watch in vain as a grounded
14 submarine off Cape Canaveral, Florida escaped before the military
15 arrived, Civil Air Patrol planes were issued bombs and depth charges,
16 and thereafter the Civil Air Patrol coastal patrol flew 24 million
17 miles and found 173 submarines, ultimately attacking 57 and hitting
18 10; and

19 WHEREAS, On April 28, 1943, by presidential executive order, the
20 Civil Air Patrol became an auxiliary of the United States Army Air
21 Forces, and several months later the Germans withdrew coastal U-boat
22 operations "because of those damned little red and yellow airplanes";
23 and

1 WHEREAS, During the postwar years, the Civil Air Patrol was
2 put to work in search and rescue missions, saving the United
3 States millions of dollars in operational costs as the only
4 organization with the equipment and training to perform this
5 vital job, with military aircraft being far too expensive to
6 operate and flying too fast to accurately spot downed planes and
7 personnel; and

8 WHEREAS, During the deadly 2014 highway 530 mudslide in
9 Darrington, Washington, the Civil Air Patrol flew vital supplies
10 to areas unreachable by heavier aircraft; and ground teams
11 helped to evacuate cities and towns, maintained the Temporary
12 Flight Restriction over the area, and provided high-bird
13 communications for other agencies; and

14 WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol's National Cell Phone
15 Forensics Team and National Radar Analysis Team, which used
16 cutting-edge technology to complement the efforts of searchers
17 in the air and on the ground for missing airplanes and
18 individuals, were credited by the Air Force Rescue Coordination
19 Center with saving 70 lives in fiscal year 2016; and

20 WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program, celebrating its
21 75th year in 2017, has over 24,000 participants between the ages
22 of 12 and 20, one of its major attractions being its aerospace
23 program, which provides both classroom and practical instruction
24 in flight and rocketry, and offers each cadet the opportunity to
25 participate in orientation flights in both powered and glider
26 aircraft while learning search and rescue techniques and other
27 valuable skills, emphasizing military history, leadership,
28 science, technology, engineering, and math education, and
29 "service before self" to members' community, state, and nation;
30 and

31 WHEREAS, Today's Civil Air Patrol continues its service and
32 commitment to our state and country with three primary missions:
33 Aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services; and

34 WHEREAS, The Washington Wing's commitment to service
35 includes three nationally recognized leaders: 2014 Chaplain of
36 the Year, (Lt. Col.) Dave Franklin; 2015 Legislative Squadron
37 Commander of the Year, Senator (Lt. Col.) Jim Honeyford; and

1 2016 Public Affairs Officer of the Year, (Capt.) Jessica Jerwa,
2 along with the many officers and cadets; and

3 WHEREAS, In Washington State alone, the Civil Air Patrol is
4 composed of approximately 744 senior members and 626 cadets,
5 adding up to 144 volunteer aircrew personnel and 779 emergency
6 responders who, in 2016 alone, flew their 14 aircraft 1,537
7 hours in service to our state, a value of 4.9 million dollars in
8 volunteer hours; and

9 WHEREAS, The McChord Composite Squadron Color Guard, located
10 at McChord Field, Joint Base Lewis-McChord and comprised of
11 youth Cadet members, have volunteered their time to represent
12 the Civil Air Patrol's state headquarters while presenting the
13 colors;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
15 Senate recognize the Washington State wing of the Civil Air
16 Patrol for its courageous and unwavering dedication to our
17 citizens; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
19 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to
20 Colonel James P. Furlong, Commander of the Civil Air Patrol
21 Washington Wing.

22 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
23 do hereby certify that this is a true and
24 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8616,
25 adopted by the Senate
26 April 13, 2017

27 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
28 Secretary of the Senate