

SENATE RESOLUTION

8655

By Senator Randall

1 WHEREAS, Jan Yoshiwara is retiring as executive director of the
2 Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges on July
3 31, 2022; and

4 WHEREAS, Jan's retirement caps an honorable and impactful 44-year
5 career serving Washington's community and technical college students
6 and the 34 local colleges that serve them; and

7 WHEREAS, Jan is dedicated to providing higher education
8 opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds for whom a
9 college credential can make the greatest change in the trajectory of
10 their lives and the lives of their families; and

11 WHEREAS, Jan attended high school and college in California
12 during a time of excitement, change, and social activism in the 1960s
13 and early 1970s; and

14 WHEREAS, Jan was influenced by the civil rights movement and
15 decided to work at the intersection of civil rights and higher
16 education by serving students who may not have the same opportunities
17 as others because of financial hardships, language barriers, race, or
18 ethnicity; and

19 WHEREAS, Under Jan's leadership, Washington's community and
20 technical college system put racial equity at the front and center of
21 its mission; and

22 WHEREAS, Due to Jan's leadership, Washington's community and
23 technical colleges are part of a national reform movement called

1 "Guided Pathways" to increase retention and completion rates for
2 all students, especially students of color; and

3 WHEREAS, Under Jan's visionary direction, Washington became
4 one of the first states in the nation to offer applied
5 bachelor's degrees, allowing students to build on 2-year
6 professional degrees and earn bachelor's degrees close to home;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Jan was at the forefront of the community and
9 technical college system's adoption of a performance-based
10 funding model that awards colleges funds when students reach key
11 momentum points leading to a credential; and

12 WHEREAS, Jan established a research division within the
13 State Board to ensure the community and technical college system
14 is transparent, accountable, and data-driven; and

15 WHEREAS, Jan's reforms are helping to move more students
16 from K-12, through college, and into careers and universities,
17 thereby uplifting the lives of the people who live, work, and
18 innovate in Washington; and

19 WHEREAS, Jan has shepherded the community and technical
20 college system through sweeping changes with a mix of grace,
21 expertise, and collaboration that has won the affection and
22 respect of all those who work with her;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate express its
24 deepest gratitude to Jan Yoshiwara for a life-long career
25 serving students, colleges, employers, and communities in
26 Washington state; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
28 immediately transmitted to Jan Yoshiwara and members of the
29 State Board for Community and Technical Colleges.

30 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,
31 do hereby certify that this is a true and
32 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8655,
33 adopted by the Senate
34 February 22, 2022

35 SARAH BANNISTER

1 Secretary of the Senate