

SENATE RESOLUTION

8696

By Senators O'Ban, Zeiger, Angel, Darneille, Conway, Hunt, Becker, Bailey, Baumgartner, Billig, Braun, Brown, Carlyle, Chase, Cleveland, Dhingra, Ericksen, Fain, Fortunato, Frockt, Hasegawa, Hawkins, Hobbs, Honeyford, Keiser, King, Kuderer, Lias, McCoy, Miloscia, Mullet, Nelson, Padden, Palumbo, Pedersen, Ranker, Rivers, Rolfes, Saldaña, Schoesler, Sheldon, Short, Takko, Van De Wege, Wagoner, Walsh, Warnick, Wellman, and Wilson

1 WHEREAS, Amtrak train No. 501 derailed near DuPont in southern
2 Pierce County at 7:33 a.m. on December 18, 2017, during its inaugural
3 trip on the new stretch of track known as the Point Defiance bypass,
4 with seventy-seven passengers and five crewmembers onboard; and

5 WHEREAS, Sixty-two passengers and crewmembers were injured and
6 three passengers lost their lives; and

7 WHEREAS, Second Lieutenant Robert McCoy, an Army medic, was
8 driving on Interstate 5 just as the train derailed and without
9 thought to his welfare, immediately jumped out of his truck and began
10 carrying the wounded out of harm's way and off the road to safety,
11 and then climbed into a suspended train car to help those trapped
12 inside; and

13 WHEREAS, Daniel Konzelman and Alicia Hoverson were also driving
14 along Interstate 5 and came upon the scene just after the derailment
15 and quickly helped extricate passengers from the damaged train and
16 were a calming presence to the injured; and

17 WHEREAS, DuPont Mayor Mike Courts and his team were
18 coincidentally at City Hall that morning to begin a scheduled
19 emergency training, and they began coordination of the emergency
20 response, opening up City Hall for emergency workers, taking in those
21 affected, providing food, water, and triage services; and

22 WHEREAS, Many other pedestrians, police officers, firefighters,
23 nurses, and doctors jumped into action to help those in need; and

1 WHEREAS, Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier and the
2 Pierce County Incident Management Team, led by Captain Jerry
3 Lawrence from the Pierce County Sheriff's Department and Captain
4 Scott Engle of the Puyallup Police Department, spearheaded a
5 multiagency response; and

6 WHEREAS, The responding agencies included: West Pierce Fire;
7 Joint Base Lewis-McChord; the City of DuPont; the Pierce County
8 Medical Examiner; the Office of the Governor; the Washington
9 State Department of Transportation; the Washington State Patrol;
10 the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the National Transportation
11 Safety Board; Amtrak; and the American Red Cross; and

12 WHEREAS, These agencies showed exemplary coordination in
13 helping the injured and addressing the myriad of issues
14 resulting from a catastrophe of this magnitude, with remarkable
15 effectiveness and sensitivity to the injured and their families;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, These agencies worked collaboratively and
18 professionally to remove damaged vehicles and equipment, assess
19 damages, and perform necessary repairs that allowed the opening
20 of Interstate 5, an essential and critical Washington state
21 highway, within fifty-seven hours; and

22 WHEREAS, Madigan Army Medical Center at Joint Base Lewis-
23 McChord; Providence St. Peter Hospital and Capital Medical
24 Center in Olympia; Harborview Medical Center, Virginia Mason
25 Medical Center, and Children's Hospital in Seattle; St. Joseph
26 Medical Center, Tacoma General, and Allenmore Hospital in
27 Tacoma; Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup; and, St. Francis
28 Hospital in Federal Way all treated victims of the train crash;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, Joint Base Lewis-McChord made available its Eagles
31 Pride Golf Course as the command center for coordination among
32 all responding agencies and opened its restricted roadways for
33 use by the general public to accommodate traffic from the
34 impassable southbound lanes of Interstate 5;

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
36 Senate hereby honors all those who acted promptly, efficiently,
37 and effectively in a time of extraordinary confusion and

1 emotional stress to aid the injured and their families and
2 console those who lost loved ones; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
4 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to those
5 mentioned in this resolution.

6 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,
7 do hereby certify that this is a true and
8 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8696,
9 adopted by the Senate
10 January 31, 2018

11 BRAD HENDRICKSON
12 Secretary of the Senate