

SENATE RESOLUTION

8735

By Senators Dammeier, Becker, O'Ban, Conway, Darneille, and Keiser

1 WHEREAS, Bob Neilson was a beloved resident of Puyallup since
2 1977, using every opportunity to connect with his neighbors next
3 door, in the surrounding communities, and across the county; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Neilson was blessed with a wonderful marriage to his
5 wife, Hope, who stood by him through his service around the world and
6 all of his efforts reaching out to his community; despite countless
7 hours spent away from home, both when he was wearing his Army uniform
8 and when he coordinated support for local high school students, Hope
9 was incredibly supportive of his service; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Neilson traveled the world in service to our country
11 as an officer in the United States Army during a time when our
12 country was deeply engaged in the Cold War; his leadership was
13 invaluable and his sacrifice of service deeply appreciated; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Neilson had a strong and deep faith, and lived James
15 2:17 by showing his faith in action—he spearheaded his church's men's
16 breakfast and was always reaching out to care for others in need; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Neilson actively reached out to our youth, investing
18 in the next generation of community leaders and linking the students
19 of Puyallup School District with the world around them by bringing a
20 variety of speakers into schools to share their experiences;
21 additionally, he connected students with the community through a
22 variety of service opportunities, promoting the importance of civic
23 responsibility; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Neilson believed passionately in civic engagement
2 and our responsibility as citizens for our government: He actively
3 participated in local grassroots politics, including visiting more
4 than 30,000 homes on behalf of candidates who reflected his
5 priorities and vision for our state and country, and loved talking
6 with folks on their doorsteps about the important issues facing our
7 society; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Neilson made a lasting impact on all who met him,
9 especially in the community of Puyallup; he leaves a tremendous void
10 that cannot be filled, representing the best that we can hope for as
11 a servant leader and serving as a great reminder that we are blessed
12 to have committed citizens such as Bob within our communities;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
14 honor and cherish the life of Bob Neilson.

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