

SENATE RESOLUTION

8611

By Senators Keiser, Schoesler, King, Fortunato, Valdez, Cleveland, Stanford, Conway, Nguyen, Lovick, Hasegawa, Rolfes, and Salomon

1       WHEREAS, Washington state is committed to the development of its  
2 maritime industry's role in achieving a sustainable future and  
3 contributions to economic growth, ecological health, and thriving  
4 communities; and

5       WHEREAS, The current global pandemic has demonstrated the  
6 critical importance of maintaining resilient domestic industries and  
7 transportation services to the citizens and workforce of Washington  
8 state; and

9       WHEREAS, In 1920, Senator Wesley Jones of Washington championed  
10 the Merchant Marine Act of 1920 requiring vessels carrying cargo  
11 between locations in the United States be owned by American  
12 companies, crewed by American mariners, and built in American  
13 shipyards; and

14       WHEREAS, Washington state is home to 22,500 maritime jobs, the  
15 sixth highest among all states, that generate \$1,500,000,000 in labor  
16 income through the construction and maintenance of ferries, fishing  
17 boats, and cargo vessels; and

18       WHEREAS, Maritime industry jobs create ladders of opportunity  
19 through high-paying, family-wage careers that offer significant  
20 career advancement without generally necessitating advanced formal  
21 education and extensive student loans; and

1           WHEREAS, The more than 40,000 vessel strong fleet supports  
2 nearly 650,000 family-wage jobs and over \$154,000,000,000 in  
3 economic output nationally and \$6,100,000,000 to the Washington  
4 state economy;

5           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington state  
6 Senate celebrate the centennial anniversary of the law  
7 championed by Senator Wesley Jones in 1920 in fostering a strong  
8 domestic maritime industry that is critical to Washington  
9 state's and the nation's economic prosperity and national  
10 security.

11 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
12 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
13 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8611,  
14 adopted by the Senate  
15 February 2, 2023

16 SARAH BANNISTER  
17 Secretary of the Senate