HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.2009-4604, by Representatives Orwall, Orcutt, Sells, Maxwell, Schmick, Springer, Moeller, Driscoll, Kelley, Haler, McCoy, Smith, Hope, White, Probst, Jacks, Short, Chase, Haigh, Warnick, Simpson, Rolfes, Dammeier, Johnson, Ross, Ormsby, Quall, Eddy, Nelson, Appleton, and Darneille

WHEREAS, We in this body work every day with an eye toward the future; this day is different – our future is sitting right here, looking up at us; and

WHEREAS, Our distinguished guests are a small selection of our state's 1.5 million children, but serve as a powerful reminder as to what is at stake with each decision we make; and

WHEREAS, It is not only our duty, but the duty of these children's parents and of every citizen, to ensure the Washington they inherit provides even more opportunities and prosperity than the state bequeathed from those who proceeded us; and

WHEREAS, We are all obligated to ensure our children access to the best education available, while keeping schools and neighborhoods safe; and

WHEREAS, We also ask much of our children: Work hard in school, volunteer within your community, and do your part to make Washington a better place for us all; and

WHEREAS, We welcome to the House of Representatives every child that has joined us here today, and bid a special salutation to the high school students serving as pages this session. We hope your experiences over the coming months only serve to stoke your passion in the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, The House of Representatives welcomes children into the chamber one day each year so they may witness the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, All of these children bring hope to their communities and their state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the children of the state of Washington and encourage every citizen to join in the commemoration of Children's Day not just today, but every day. Spend quality time with your children, make sure they understand their special place in your life.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4604 adopted by the House of Representatives January 19, 2009

Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk