HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.2009-4629, by Representatives Kessler and Van De Wege

WHEREAS, Whitley Barnes, a resident of Port Angeles and a student at Crescent High School, has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by being chosen as a Distinguished Finalist for the 2009 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, This prestigious award, presented by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their communities; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Barnes earned this award by giving generously of her time and energy starting a youth suicide prevention program at her school in 2004. The program's members visited more than 20 schools to teach teens what to do if a friend expresses suicidal thoughts and provide direct support to individuals as peer counselors; and

WHEREAS, The success of the State of Washington, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Ms. Barnes who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the State of Washington congratulate and honor Ms. Barnes as a recipient of a Prudential Spirit of Community Award, recognize her outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community spirit, and extend best wishes for her continued success and happiness.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4629 adopted by the House of Representatives March 4, 2009

Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk