HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 98-4728, by Representatives Dickerson, H. Sommers, Doumit, Hatfield, Dunn and McCune

WHEREAS, The Fishermen's Festival will hold its 70th annual event in Seattle's Ballard neighborhood on Sunday, March 15, 1998; and

WHEREAS, The Fishermen's Festival, as sponsored by Ballard's First Lutheran Church, carries on a centuries-old European tradition of blessing fishermen before their annual fishing journeys; and

WHEREAS, The Fishermen's Festival will honor those brave fishermen who tragically lost their lives on the seas; and

WHEREAS, Ever since the Army Corps of Engineers dredged Salmon Bay in 1916, commercial fishing in Ballard has greatly expanded, becoming an important economic resource for the state of Washington; and

WHEREAS, Fish have played a significant role in the economic and cultural climate of our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of Representatives pay tribute to the 1998 Fishermen's Festival and its bestowal of blessings upon fishermen and their families.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4728 adopted by the House of Representatives March 11, 1998.