

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.4720, by Representative Linville

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of the Washington state Legislature to recognize individuals who perform heroic acts and who help protect and ensure the well-being of the citizens of Washington state; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Stuart Smith of the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office performed such an act on January 24, 2006, by playing a critical role in stopping two fugitives who were attempting to flee to Canada; and

WHEREAS, These suspects were known to be armed and dangerous and were endangering the lives of others during the course of the pursuit; and

WHEREAS, These suspects were wanted in the state of California for murder and are to be expedited to face these charges; and

WHEREAS, The law enforcers of Washington state go to work everyday with the knowledge that their line of work can be dangerous; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Smith knowingly risked his life by ramming the suspects' vehicle to stop it before it crossed the border, then subsequently assisted in the arrest of the suspects; and

WHEREAS, It is the fundamental duty of the police officers of this state to safeguard lives and property, to protect the weak and innocent, and to uphold the peace; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Smith upheld these principles while in the line of duty by helping to ensure these dangerous suspects could not escape the law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the state of Washington honor the bravery of Deputy Stuart Smith and his dedication to maintaining the rule of law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to Deputy Stuart Smith and his family and to the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
Resolution 4720 adopted by the House of Representatives
March 8, 2006

Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk