

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2018-4662, by Representatives Muri, Kilduff, Holy, Klippert, Morris, Orwall, Sawyer, Stambaugh, Ryu, Barkis, McDonald, Dye, Dent, Kraft, Macri, Wylie, Johnson, Van Werven, and Reeves

1 WHEREAS, On December 18, 2017, Amtrak train No. 501 derailed near
2 DuPont in southern Pierce County at 7:33 a.m. on its inaugural trip
3 of the new stretch of track known as the Point Defiance bypass, with
4 seventy-seven passengers and six crew on board; and

5 WHEREAS, Eighty-five people were injured and three lost their
6 lives; and

7 WHEREAS, Second Lieutenant Robert McCoy, an Army medic, was
8 driving on Interstate 5 just as the train derailed and without
9 thought to his welfare, immediately jumped out of his truck and began
10 carrying the wounded out of harm's way and off the road to safety,
11 and then climbed into a suspended train car to help those trapped
12 inside; and

13 WHEREAS, Eagle Scout Daniel Konzelman and Alicia Hoverson, also
14 came upon the scene just after the derailment and quickly helped
15 extricate passengers from the damaged train and were a calming
16 presence to the injured; and

17 WHEREAS, DuPont Mayor Mike Courts and his team just happened to
18 be at City Hall that morning to begin a planned emergency training,
19 and began coordination of the emergency response, opening up City
20 Hall for emergency workers, taking in those affected, providing food,
21 water, and triage services; and

22 WHEREAS, Many other pedestrians, police officers, firefighters,
23 nurses, and doctors jumped into action to help those in need; and

1 WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee immediately declared a state of
2 emergency, activated the State Emergency Operations Center to
3 coordinate resources to support state and local officials, and
4 mobilized the state National Guard to help as needed; and

5 WHEREAS, Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier and the Pierce
6 County Incident Management Team (IMT), led by Captain Jerry Lawrence
7 from the Pierce County Sheriff's Department and Captain Scott Engle
8 of Puyallup Police, spearheaded a multiagency response; and

9 WHEREAS, West Pierce Fire District, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, the
10 City of DuPont, the Pierce County Medical Examiner, the Governor's
11 Office, the Washington State Department of Transportation, the State
12 Patrol, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National
13 Transportation Safety Board, Amtrak, the Red Cross, and other
14 agencies showed exemplary coordination to help the injured and
15 address the myriad of issues of a catastrophe of this magnitude with
16 remarkable effectiveness and sensitivity to the injured and their
17 families; and

18 WHEREAS, Madigan Army Medical Center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord,
19 St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, Harborview Medical Center in Seattle,
20 St. Joseph Medical Center in Tacoma, Good Samaritan Hospital in
21 Puyallup, and Allenmore Hospital in Tacoma all treated victims of the
22 train crash; and

23 WHEREAS, Joint Base Lewis-McChord quickly opened up its facility
24 to the general public to accommodate traffic from the impassable
25 southbound lanes of I-5;

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House
27 of Representatives hereby honors the men and women who acted so
28 promptly, efficiently, and effectively in a time of extraordinary
29 confusion and emotional stress to aid the injured and their families
30 and console those who lost loved ones; and

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
32 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of
33 Representatives to those mentioned in this resolution.

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35 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
36 Resolution 4662 adopted by the House of Representatives
37 January 30, 2018
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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk