HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2020-4649, by Representative DeBolt

WHEREAS, Amyloidosis, a rare disease of which there are several types, one of which is similar to a blood cancer and another that is commonly inherited. This combination of all types of Amyloidosis affects approximately ten thousand people in the United States, five hundred of whom live in Washington; and

WHEREAS, An abnormal protein either produced in the bone marrow or liver travels through the bloodstream, depositing as amyloid in various organs, primarily the heart, nervous system, intestines, and kidneys, causing the organs to fail over time; and

WHEREAS, The medical length of survival for an Amyloidosis patient, who does not receive treatment is less than three years. Many patients go undiagnosed every year, and special initiatives, such as this resolution can raise public awareness and save lives; and

WHEREAS, There have been advances in the treatment of Amyloidosis that have extended life expectancy, but currently, there are no drugs approved for the destruction of amyloids; and

WHEREAS, The early diagnosis of Amyloidosis in conjunction with prompt treatments not only improves the quality of life, but extends life expectancy; and

WHEREAS, There are a limited number of Amyloidosis treatment centers in Washington that specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of Amyloidosis patients, but fortunately, we have one world class center, Seattle Cancer Care Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Amyloidosis Foundation and other special organizations, health care professionals, and health care facilities across the country celebrate the month of March as Amyloidosis Awareness Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the house of representatives of the state of Washington commends these organizations, health care professionals, and facilities for their work to treat and to raise awareness of Amyloidosis.