

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.2005-4609, by Representatives Takko, Springer, Santos, Ericks, Haigh, Chase, P. Sullivan, Ahern, Alexander, Anderson, Appleton, Armstrong, Bailey, Blake, Buck, Buri, Campbell, Chandler, Chopp, Clements, Clibborn, Cody, Condotta, Conway, Cox, Crouse, Curtis, Darneille, DeBolt, Dickerson, Dunn, Dunshee, Eickmeyer, Ericksen, Flannigan, Fromhold, Grant, Green, Haler, Hankins, Hasegawa, Hinkle, Holmquist, Hudgins, Hunt, Hunter, Jarrett, Kagi, Kenney, Kessler, Kilmer, Kirby, Kretz, Kristiansen, Lantz, Linville, Lovick, McCoy, McCune, McDermott, McDonald, McIntire, Miloscia, Moeller, Morrell, Morris, Murray, Newhouse, Nixon, O'Brien, Orcutt, Ormsby, Pearson, Pettigrew, Priest, Quall, Roach, Roberts, Rodne, Schindler, Schual-Berke, Sells, Serben, Shabro, Simpson, Skinner, Sommers, Strow, B. Sullivan, Sump, Talcott, Tom, Upthegrove, Wallace, Walsh, Williams, Wood and Woods

WHEREAS, On December 26, 2004, one of the most devastating natural disasters in recent history brought modern civilization to its knees and unspeakable grief to our hearts; and

WHEREAS, An earthquake, 9.0 in magnitude, centered underwater off the coast of the Indonesian island of Sumatra, triggered a tsunami that traveled at speeds of up to 500 miles per hour and 40 feet in height, devastating the coastal areas of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, Malaysia, and the Maldives; and

WHEREAS, The disaster was felt as far away as Somalia, where nine people died; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 212,611 people lost their lives, including 18 Americans, and 6,245 people are still missing, including 17 Americans presumed dead; and

WHEREAS, Governments, corporations, relief agencies, and individuals worldwide have come together to pledge more than \$5 billion to the relief and recovery effort; and

WHEREAS, UNICEF, Save The Children, and the Red Cross are international organizations that provide medical and basic need disaster relief services to underdeveloped and disaster-stricken regions; and

WHEREAS, More than 1 million children were orphaned, displaced, injured, or otherwise affected by the disaster and UNICEF has deemed these children the "Tsunami Generation"; and

WHEREAS, Children are among the most vulnerable in this disaster; many have been orphaned or separated from their parents, making them susceptible to exploitation, abuse, or criminal trafficking, making current efforts by UNICEF and Save The Children to register, support, and keep such children safe of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, We also recognize Save The Children for its ongoing relief efforts setting up temporary camps and providing water, food, shelter, medicine, and protection from disease to both children and adults who were victimized by the tsunami; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the need to reopen schools in South Asia and reestablish a daily routine for children, Education International established a tsunami relief program to provide assistance directly to teachers, students, and schools in the affected areas, which allowed schools in Sri Lanka to reopen January 10th;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of Representatives honor and support the Red Cross, Save The Children, and UNICEF for their work to aid the victims of the tsunami and to protect the "Tsunami Generation" from further trauma; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to Washington state chapters of the Red Cross, UNICEF, and Save The Children.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
Resolution 4609 adopted by the House of Representatives
January 28, 2005

Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk