## HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4029

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

**By** Representatives Liias, Loomis, Ericks, Sells, Rolfes, Seaquist, McCoy, Upthegrove, Hunt, Williams, Linville, Appleton, Smith, Morrell, McIntire, and Pearson

Read first time 01/23/08. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, 2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF 3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE: 5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of 6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully 7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Congress mandates and funds the Northwest Straits Marine 9 Conservation Initiative, a conservation and restoration program serving 10 the Puget Sound in northwest Washington state, with the charge of 11 establishing community-based marine stewardship, conducting citizen-12 driven scientific studies on marine species and their habitat, and 13 restoring marine habitat; and

WHEREAS, The Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative is an innovative, important, and successful program that provides a valuable service to the health of the Puget Sound by creating and executing locally significant projects designed to protect, preserve, and restore marine and nearshore habitat, by educating and engaging the public in marine conservation, and by fostering and disseminating sound science to inform project creation and policymakers; and 1 WHEREAS, The Puget Sound is a vast and beautiful estuary, one of 2 the largest in the United States, a complex living ecosystem, home to 3 a range of critical marine and anadromous wildlife, a cornerstone of 4 the Pacific Northwest economy, and heart of the Pacific Northwest 5 heritage;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress 7 continue to mandate and fund the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation 8 Initiative to protect, preserve, and restore the environmental health 9 of the Puget Sound.

BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington, and the Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce.

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