

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4696, by Representatives Kochmar, Robinson, Gregerson, Senn, Haler, Santos, Ortiz-Self, Roberts, Walsh, Ross, Ryu, Freeman, and Kristiansen

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski was raised in the city of Federal Way and has been a long-time Federal Way, Washington resident; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski started his illustrious career of inline speed skating when he was four years old, skating for Team Extreme at Pattison's West in Federal Way; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski suffered an injury on the last day of the 2009 Olympic trials that was seemingly career ending; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski made one of the most amazing comebacks of any professional athlete by going through four months of strenuous rehab and conditioning to be in peak athletic form just in time for the Olympic opening ceremony in Vancouver; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski won his first two Olympic medals within a span of two weeks at the 2010 Vancouver games in both the 1500 meter and 5000 meter short track speed skating relays respectively; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski won the U.S. Single Distance Championships in September of 2012 to earn a spot on the Fall World Cup Team that would go on to compete in World Cups 1-4; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski set a world record while winning a total of 7 medals during the 2012-2013 World Cup season, including 3 silver and 1 gold; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski competed in the 2014 XXII Winter Olympic games in Sochi, Russia, honorably representing his country and community; and

WHEREAS, On February 21, 2014, J.R. Celski and his team won a silver medal in the short track speed skating 5000 meter relay; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Celski is a perfect example of a true winner, combining an unparalleled drive to succeed, a dedication to his craft, as well as humility in victory that has made him a great role model for all of us;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of Representatives honor J.R. Celski for his passion, diligence, and dedication to being an exemplary Olympic athlete and citizen; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to J.R. Celski.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of  
Resolution 4696 adopted by the House of Representatives  
March 3, 2014

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Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk