

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2016-4679, by Representatives Nealey, Walsh, Johnson,
and Senn

1 WHEREAS, Walla Walla Frontier Days is the oldest fair in the
2 state of Washington; and

3 WHEREAS, 2016 represents the 150th anniversary of the Walla Walla
4 Frontier Days; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1866, the Walla Walla Agricultural Society staged a
6 large agricultural and industrial exposition that would showcase the
7 valley crops and the latest farming methods; and

8 WHEREAS, The first county fair was held October 4, 5, and 6,
9 1866, on the horse-track racing grounds which had been built in 1862,
10 three miles west of the then present city limits; and

11 WHEREAS, The historic pavilion was erected in 1906 for a fruit
12 exhibit and concert hall; and

13 WHEREAS, During World War II, the exhibition hall was used to
14 house German prisoners of war; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1913, the management decided to inaugurate a new
16 order of business and, as a result, the "Frontier Days" came into
17 existence with its spectacular display of bull dogging, relay races,
18 stagecoach races, cowboys, cowgirls, and other local participants,
19 representing one of the last stands of the Wild West "How the West
20 was Won"; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1935, the fair royalty was added, in which young
22 women throughout the region competed to be on the court, a tradition

1 which continues to date, with the exception of the World War II
2 years; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1974, an annual concert was added to the fair
4 featuring world class entertainment; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2006, the pavilion underwent its first major
6 renovation in many years for the pavilion's century celebration; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2008, the Rodeo Legends award was implemented,
8 acknowledging the outstanding men and women of the valley who have
9 attained a high level of achievement in the sport of rodeo; and

10 WHEREAS, Throughout the years, the 4-H and FFA programs have
11 become the annual showcase of the region's younger population,
12 fostering the next generation of the agricultural community; and

13 WHEREAS, Fair board members, fair managers, county commissioners,
14 state elected officials, community leaders, businesses, sponsors, and
15 many thousands of volunteers collectively are to be acknowledged for
16 their commitment and support over 150 years;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House
18 of Representatives recognize and honor the Walla Walla Frontier Days
19 sesquicentennial, and a storied past of being a place "where memories
20 are made to last a lifetime"; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be
22 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of
23 Representatives to the Walla Walla Fair Board and the Walla Walla
24 County Commissioners.

25
26 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
27 Resolution 4679 adopted by the House of Representatives

28 March 4, 2016
29
30
31
32
33

34 _____
Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk