

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2023-4627, by Representative Klicker

1       WHEREAS, Dean Atkinson, Jr. was born on November 29, 1994, in  
2 Savannah, Georgia, and graduated from Walla Walla High School in  
3 2013; and

4       WHEREAS, Dean Atkinson, Jr. served our country honorably in the  
5 Washington Army National Guard alongside his father Dean Atkinson,  
6 Sr.; and

7       WHEREAS, Dean Atkinson, Jr. was commissioned on June 6, 2018,  
8 with the 109th Trooper Basic Training Class as a Washington State  
9 Patrol Trooper assigned to Moses Lake, Washington, then transferred  
10 to Walla Walla, Washington in 2019; and

11       WHEREAS, Trooper Dean Atkinson, Jr. has become a strong and vital  
12 link between the work of the Washington State Patrol and the  
13 community he served; and

14       WHEREAS, Trooper Dean Atkinson, Jr. fully embodies the Washington  
15 State Patrol's motto of "Service with Humility" by performing his  
16 duties professionally with a positive attitude, a ubiquitous smile,  
17 and a sense of respect for the community he serves; and

18       WHEREAS, Trooper Dean Atkinson, Jr., while in the line of duty,  
19 was critically wounded when he was ambushed while on routine patrol  
20 in Walla Walla on September 22, 2022; and

21       WHEREAS, Trooper Dean Atkinson, Jr. having been shot three times,  
22 once in the left hand and twice in the face, drove himself to  
23 Providence St. Mary Medical Center for treatment; and

1       WHEREAS, Trooper Dean Atkinson, Jr. is not only a loving son and  
2 brother, but also a devoted partner to his fiancé, Meagan Graves;  
3       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House  
4 of Representatives express its gratitude, respect, and admiration to  
5 Trooper Dean Atkinson, Jr. for his bravery in the line of fire; and  
6       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives join  
7 the people of the State of Washington in commending, saluting, and  
8 honoring Trooper Dean Atkinson, Jr. for his exemplary and exceptional  
9 service; and  
10       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives express  
11 profound appreciation and enduring gratitude to the brave men and  
12 women that protect our state every day as law enforcement officers;  
13 and  
14       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
15 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of  
16 Representatives to Trooper Dean Atkinson, Jr., Washington State  
17 Patrol Chief John R. Batiste, and Washington State Patrol District 3  
18 Commander Shane M. Nelson.

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