HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4700, by Representatives Chopp, Kristiansen, Ortiz-Self, Appleton, Bergquist, Blake, Buys, Carlyle, Chandler, Christian, Clibborn, Cody, Condotta, Dahlquist, DeBolt, Dunshee, Fagan, Farrell, Fey, Fitzgibbon, Freeman, Goodman, Green, Gregerson, Habib, Haigh, Haler, Hansen, Hargrove, Harris, Hawkins, Hayes, Holy, Hope, Hudgins, G. Hunt, S. Hunt, Hunter, Hurst, Jinkins, Johnson, Kagi, Kirby, Klippert, Kochmar, Kretz, Lytton, MacEwen, Magendanz, Manweller, Moeller, Morrell, Morris, Moscoso, Muri, Nealey, Orcutt, Ormsby, Orwall, Overstreet, Parker, Pettigrew, Pike, Pollet, Reykdal, Riccelli, Robinson, Rodne, Ross, Ryu, Santos, Sawyer, Schmick, Scott, Seaquist, Sells, Senn, Shea, Short, Smith, Springer, Stanford, Stonier, Sullivan, Takko, Tarleton, Taylor, Tharinger, Van De Wege, Vick, Walkinshaw, Walsh, Warnick, Wilcox, Wylie, Young, and Zeiger

WHEREAS, Washington State Representative Mary Helen Roberts, first elected in 2004, is in her fifth term serving the best interests of families in the Twenty-First Legislative District of Southwest Snohomish County; and

WHEREAS, Representative Roberts, for her highest priorities, has invariably established safe and strong communities, quality education, accessible health care, a clean environment, and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, During her eminent decade of service in the Washington State Legislature, Representative Roberts dedicated her tireless commitment to wide ranging issues involving children and human services, higher education, public safety, justice, and labor; and

WHEREAS, Representative Mary Helen Roberts was named "2011 Legislator of the Year" by the National Alliance on Mental Illness; and

WHEREAS, She has kept the lives of foster kids in the Olympia spotlight, recognizing that more than 10,000 youngsters on any given day are living in foster care here in the Evergreen State; and

WHEREAS, Among her many legislative successes, Representative Roberts won support for her proposal to extend Medicaid and support services for kids in foster care up to their 21st birthdays; and

WHEREAS, Her legislation opening doors of higher education for foster kids extends foster care for young people enrolled in a postsecondary or vocational education program; and

WHEREAS, Representative Roberts championed legislation providing juvenile offenders a fair and justifiable opportunity for earning redemption; and

WHEREAS, Representative Roberts has stood her ground in working toward state policy that provides mental health care for juvenile offenders, instead of sending them to jail; and

WHEREAS, Representative Mary Helen Roberts recently announced that later this year she will not seek reelection to the Washington State House of Representatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of Representatives salute and celebrate Representative Mary Helen Roberts for her dedication to the people of the Twenty-First Legislative District and, indeed, to the people of the entire state of Washington; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to the family of Washington State Representative Mary Helen Roberts.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4700 adopted by the House of Representatives March 12, 2014

Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk