

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2017-4605, by Representatives Peterson, Stonier, Appleton, Lytton, Sells, Pollet, Frame, Jenkins, Riccelli, Ryu, Senn, Kagi, and Macri

1 WHEREAS, Agriculture is a vital industry in Washington state,  
2 accounting for 13 percent of the economy; and

3 WHEREAS, Washington state is home to more than 37,000 farms, of  
4 which over 80 percent are individual and family owned; and

5 WHEREAS, Washington state's agriculture industry employs over  
6 160,000 people; and

7 WHEREAS, All children deserve access to nutritious, high-quality  
8 food; and

9 WHEREAS, Children need to eat a variety of fruits and vegetables  
10 every day to get essential vitamins and minerals; and

11 WHEREAS, In Washington state, 1 in 5 children lives in a  
12 household that struggles with hunger and 14 percent of families are  
13 food insecure, without reliable access to affordable, nutritious  
14 food; and

15 WHEREAS, Washington students' ability and readiness to learn is a  
16 critical factor in acquiring the knowledge and skills to be  
17 successful in the workforce; and

18 WHEREAS, Washington state's future economic welfare rests with  
19 the students of today; and

20 WHEREAS, Community connections between schools and farmers would  
21 provide nutritious, locally grown food for children and economic  
22 opportunities for Washington farmers;

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives  
2 recognize the importance of combating childhood hunger; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives  
4 acknowledge the economic and educational benefits of connecting  
5 schools and local farmers; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commend  
7 advocacy groups and local farm to community coalitions across the  
8 state for their efforts to end hunger in Washington.

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10 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of  
11 Resolution 4605 adopted by the House of Representatives  
12 January 23, 2017

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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk