<u>HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2022-4652</u>, by Representatives Caldier, Chambers, Callan, and Ramos

WHEREAS, The United States owes an immeasurable debt to members 1 2 of the armed forces who fought for our country on the front lines of 3 World War II, spending months overseas away from their families 4 during long deployments in the most dangerous circumstances 5 imaginable; and 6 WHEREAS, The U.S. Marine Raiders were the first special forces 7 unit formed in the American military in February 1942 in four 8 battalions - Edson, Carlson, Roosevelt, and Liversedge - during World 9 War II; and 10 WHEREAS, The U.S. Marine Raiders played a large role in victories at Makin Island, Tulagi, Guadalcanal, Guam, and Okinawa during World 11 12 War II; and 13 WHEREAS, According to the Marine Raider Association and Foundation, the WWII Marine Raider Battalions earned seven Medals of 14 15 Honor, 141 Navy Crosses, and 330 Silver Stars; and 16 WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Meacham of Gig Harbor, Washington, 17 served in the United States Marine Corps 3rd Marine Raider Battalion Unit during World War II on the Pacific Islands of Bougainville, 18 19 Emirau, Guam, and Okinawa; and WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Meacham spent 24 consecutive months in 20 21 the South Pacific engaging in combat as a BAR man on Bougainville, 22 Emirau, Guam, and Okinawa; and

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1 WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Meacham was involved in several first 2 wave landings within Japanese held territory during World War II, 3 including a rubber boat landing behind enemy lines in Bougainville; 4 and

5 WHEREAS, After leaving the Marine Corps, Charles "Chuck" Meacham 6 spent several years managing Alaska's Department of Fish and Game and 7 as Assistant Secretary of the Interior in Washington, D.C.; and

8 WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Meacham now resides in the 26th 9 Legislative District in Gig Harbor, WA, and has continued work to 10 remember and honor the members of the WWII Marine Raider Battalions 11 and those that were affected by the war in the Pacific Islands 12 through charitable work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of Representatives honor Charles "Chuck" Meacham of the United States Marine Corps 3rd Marine Raider Battalion for his immeasurable contributions and sacrifices to the United States of America and the original Marine Raiders' significant role in World War II.

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I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4652 adopted by the House of Representatives February 24, 2022

Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk

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