<u>HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2024-4659</u>, by Representatives Kretz, Davis, and Maycumber

- WHEREAS, January 18th has been specified as a National Day of Action for Stalking Awareness and January has been recognized as National Stalking Awareness Month by the Stalking Prevention, Awareness, and Resource Center, established by a grant funded by the United States Department of Justice; and
- WHEREAS, This body reaffirms the inherent right of every human being to live in peace without the fear of being stalked, harassed, and violated; and
- 9 WHEREAS, We recognize stalking as a deeply traumatic 10 victimization in its own right and often intersects with sexual 11 violence, physical violence, and even homicide; and
- 12 WHEREAS, According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual 13 Violence Survey, one in three women and one in six men have been 14 stalked at some point in their lives; and
- WHEREAS, According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 76 percent of women murdered by an intimate partner were stalked first, while 85 percent of women who survived murder attempts were stalked; and
- 19 WHEREAS, 54 percent of femicide victims reported stalking to the 20 police before they were killed by their stalkers and one in seven 21 stalking victims has been forced to move because of their 22 victimization; and

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WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Justice report "Socio-emotional Impact of Violent Crime," victims often face nonphysical challenges, such as the possibility of trauma and posttraumatic stress or socio-emotional problems, affecting their ability to trust or function day to day; and

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, stalking is a public health problem that affects millions of people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The impact of all crime often affects more than just the direct victims, devastating thousands of these victims' families and friends across Washington as well; and

WHEREAS, The Washington State House of Representatives recognize the importance of honoring victims regardless of the manner, size, or type of crime committed against them because of the adversity they face and the resilience they exemplify;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the plight of those affected and victimized by the crime of stalking and further resolve to stand with the victims who have been brave enough to tell their stories, those who are no longer alive to do so, and those who might gain the courage to do so in the future.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4659 adopted by the House of Representatives

January 19, 2024

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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk

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