

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2025-4604, by Representatives Thai, Thomas, Zahn, Richards, Mena, Pollet, Wylie, Taylor, Reed, Farivar, Tharinger, Fitzgibbon, Walen, Nance, Cortes, Timmons, Berg, Ryu, Street, Callan, Obras, Salahuddin, Bernbaum, Macri, Fey, Ramel, and Parshley

1 WHEREAS, On this 29th day of January in 2025, the people of the
2 great state of Washington unite to celebrate Lunar New Year, joining
3 to distinguish Asian American joy, cultures, and beautiful diversity;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year has been celebrated for thousands of
6 years, first recorded in the 200s BC and begins on the first new moon
7 of the lunisolar calendar; and

8 WHEREAS, This year is designated as the Year of the Snake, an
9 animal characterized by transformation, renewal, and growth, bringing
10 symbols of adaptability and prosperity to the year; and

11 WHEREAS, Washington acknowledges both the rich heritage and
12 historical trauma of our Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific
13 Islander ancestors; and

14 WHEREAS, We deeply appreciate the many contributions of the Asian
15 American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities that have
16 made Washington a vibrant place for us all to call home, through
17 building and supporting their communities despite the persistent
18 discriminations and violence they may have faced in the past and
19 present; and

20 WHEREAS, The history of Asian Americans in the United States is
21 marked by exclusion and prejudice, from the Chinese Exclusion Act to
22 the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, and the
23 scars of these events still resonate today; and

1 WHEREAS, Despite these challenges, the Asian American, Native
2 Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities have enriched our nation
3 with countless contributions in science, technology, arts, and
4 culture, weaving themselves into the very fabric of Washington; and

5 WHEREAS, Recognizing and celebrating Lunar New Year affirms the
6 value of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander
7 communities and fosters a deeper understanding of our diverse
8 traditions, sending a signal to future generations that their
9 heritage is respected and celebrated; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2024, legislation was passed in Washington state to
11 establish Lunar New Year as a state-recognized holiday, sending a
12 clear message that inclusion matters; and

13 WHEREAS, We highlight the solidarity and strength of the Asian
14 American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities rooted in
15 the culture that respects its ancestry and supports its descendants;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year is a time to reflect, to celebrate
18 family and community, and to learn and understand the past as we look
19 towards renewal and growth; and

20 WHEREAS, We step into the Year of the Snake not just as
21 individuals, but as a family united in compassion and community
22 stewardship;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
24 stand with the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander
25 communities in times of crisis and in times of celebration, we come
26 together now to reflect on the year past and envision new beginnings
27 in acknowledgment of the Lunar New Year; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Lunar New Year sends a message
29 of hope and unity, reaffirming our commitment to creating a nation
30 where every individual feels valued and respected, and where the dark
31 chapters of our past serve as reminders of the future for which we
32 must strive.

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