HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2025-4608, by Representatives Abbarno, Zahn, Keaton, Steele, Ryu, Schmidt, Dent, Taylor, Macri, Pollet, Schmick, Leavitt, Low, Burnett, Barnard, Barkis, Waters, and Orcutt

1 WHEREAS, A 1983 public works report commissioned by the 2 Washington state legislature found that local governments of the 3 state of Washington projected more than \$2 billion in critical 4 infrastructure needs at that time; and

5 WHEREAS, To support Washington state local governments in the 6 financing of critical infrastructure projects, the 1985 Washington 7 state legislature created the Washington state Public Works Board in 8 1985; and

9 WHEREAS, The Public Works Board is composed of 13 members 10 appointed by the governor; three representing cities, three 11 representing counties, three jointly representing water-sewer 12 districts and public utility districts, and four representing the 13 general public; and

14 WHEREAS, The Public Works Board is responsible for administering 15 low-interest loans and grants to Washington state counties, cities, 16 water and sewer districts, and public utility districts to finance 17 essential drinking water, sanitary sewer, stormwater, road, bridge, 18 and solid waste infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, Since its creation, the Public Works Board has invested nearly \$3.5 billion in more than 2,200 projects supporting essential infrastructure to the direct benefit of residents and businesses in every county and across cities and towns in the state of Washington; and 1 WHEREAS, In the past six years, awards by the Public Works Board 2 have saved local governments \$188 million in interest rate savings 3 and grants, helping keep utility rates affordable; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Public Works Board in providing a viable option for local governments to finance critical infrastructure projects has been recognized and emulated by other states across the nation; and

8 WHEREAS, The 2025 session of the Washington state legislature 9 marks the fortieth anniversary of the creation of the Public Works 10 Board;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives 12 celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Public Works Board and 13 recognize the significant benefit the program has created for the 14 state of Washington and communities across the state by preserving 15 public health and safety, protecting the environment, supporting 16 affordable housing, and creating family-wage jobs since its creation 17 in 1985.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4608 adopted by the House of Representatives January 31, 2025

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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk

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