

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2021-4611, by Representatives Sells, Dent, Klippert, Jacobsen, Leavitt, Lekanoff, Ybarra, Pollet, and Chambers

1 WHEREAS, In June of this year, James L. Gaudino will conclude
2 twelve and one-half very successful years of service to the state as
3 president of Central Washington University; and

4 WHEREAS, President Gaudino's leadership has been instrumental in
5 overcoming some of the most challenging times of the 129-year history
6 of CWU; and

7 WHEREAS, During the Great Recession President Gaudino's budget
8 management avoided mass layoffs and actually increased financial
9 stability of the university; and

10 WHEREAS, He led the modernization and digitization of 14 business
11 processes, from procurement to human resources, reducing the time and
12 cost of administrative processes; and

13 WHEREAS, His intense focus on creating a welcoming and inclusive
14 campus climate has resulted in CWU being the most diverse public
15 university in the state, and the only university to earn the Higher
16 Education Excellence in Diversity award in six of the past seven
17 years; and

18 WHEREAS, The overhaul of campus technology and data management
19 systems has given CWU the ability to better inform planning and
20 decisions; and

21 WHEREAS, President Gaudino has modernized budget and management
22 processes, and shifted the planning horizon from one to six years in

1 order to ensure sustainable and accountable university management;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, His modernization of enrollment management allowed CWU
4 to recover from Great Recession enrollment drops and become one of
5 the fastest growing institutions in the country; and

6 WHEREAS, He has expanded educational opportunity by launching
7 online degree programs and establishing instructional sites in
8 Sammamish and at Joint Base Lewis - McChord; and

9 WHEREAS, President Gaudino's insistence on science-informed
10 pandemic strategies and close partnerships with local public health
11 officials created a safe, low-transmission learning environment and
12 has resulted in no serious illnesses to date from COVID-19;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the members of the
14 Washington State House of Representatives extend to Dr. James L.
15 Gaudino their sincere thanks for his service to the people of
16 Washington and his work to expand educational opportunity for the
17 citizens of our state; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
19 transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to Dr.
20 James L. Gaudino and the Board of Trustees of Central Washington
21 University.

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