

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2021-4620, by Representatives Graham, Chambers, Jacobsen, Robertson, Dufault, Eslick, MacEwen, Abbarno, McCaslin, Mosbrucker, Klippert, Dye, Walsh, Ybarra, Fitzgibbon, Boehnke, Leavitt, Bronoske, Schmick, Barkis, Riccelli, Lovick, Sells, Corry, Orwall, Shewmake, Dent, Chandler, Kraft, Ryu, Goehner, Walen, Klicker, Callan, Caldier, and Chase

1 WHEREAS, Firefighters in the State of Washington risk their lives
2 every day to protect the lives, property, and well-being of our
3 citizens; and

4 WHEREAS, There are over 8,000 men and women who serve as
5 firefighters and over 10,000 who have served as volunteer
6 firefighters in the State of Washington; and

7 WHEREAS, 16 of Washington state's firefighters, both active and
8 retired, have died since 2019, as well as two volunteer firefighters;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Firefighters have continued fulfilling their sworn
11 duties, despite the threat of COVID-19 in our state; and

12 WHEREAS, We recognize the additional risks firefighters have
13 faced as first responders on the frontlines of the pandemic in our
14 nation; and

15 WHEREAS, Last year, our state experienced some of the worst
16 wildfires in the nation, and the Washington wildfire season saw more
17 individual fires than any prior year, causing the air quality in our
18 state to reach unprecedented dangerous levels; and

19 WHEREAS, Firefighters braved these wildfires and COVID-19
20 concurrently, with their hard work and sacrifice undoubtedly saving
21 countless lives; and

1 WHEREAS, Washington's firefighters deserve to be honored for
2 their unwavering dedication to ensuring the well-being of our
3 citizens amidst the wildfires and the pandemic;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
5 express its utmost gratitude to the courageous firefighters of our
6 state for their diligent service and perseverance in the face of
7 wildfires and the coronavirus pandemic; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
9 transferred by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to the
10 Washington State Fire Fighters' Association, the Washington State
11 Council of Fire Fighters, the Washington State Association of Fire
12 Chiefs, the Spokane Firefighters Union 29, the Cheney Firefighters
13 Union 1919, the Medical Lake Volunteer Firefighters Association, the
14 Airway Heights Volunteer Firefighters Association, and the Washington
15 State Board for Volunteer Fire Fighters and Reserve Officers.

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