

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2019-4628, by Representatives Jenkins and Fey

1 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives, on behalf of the people,
2 recognize and honor the life and work of Helen Engle, a woman who
3 dedicated her life to advocating for and preserving Washington
4 state's ecosystems, habitats, and wild places; and

5 WHEREAS, Helen was born February 18, 1926, in Tacoma, Washington
6 and grew up on her family's homestead in Grays Harbor county. She
7 married her husband, Stan Engle with whom she had seven children and
8 who was by her side through many of her life's adventures until his
9 death in 2009; and

10 WHEREAS, Helen studied to be a nurse at the University of Puget
11 Sound during World War II before eventually leaving the profession to
12 raise her children and then found her true passion in environmental
13 activism; and

14 WHEREAS, Helen and Stan were avid hikers and skiers, were members
15 of the Mountaineers, and Helen was also known to many as an artist, a
16 knitter, and a voracious reader; and

17 WHEREAS, Helen helped save Point Defiance Park, a Tacoma landmark
18 visited by more than three million people every year. Other lands she
19 helped save or preserve include Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National
20 Wildlife Refuge, Snake lake, Swan creek, China Lake Park, Chambers
21 creek canyon and many others; and

22 WHEREAS, Helen co-founded many environmental organizations,
23 including the Tahoma Audubon Society, People for Puget Sound, the

1 Washington Environmental Council, and Citizens for a Healthy Bay. She
2 served on numerous commissions, task forces and councils that fought
3 to save the diverse habitats and natural resources of our state; and

4 WHEREAS, Helen was never afraid to speak her mind or stand up for
5 what she believed was right, and was also known for her skills in
6 coalition building, networking, and negotiation, which helped her
7 achieve many successes on behalf of the causes she took up; and

8 WHEREAS, In the words of her daughter Gretchen, "A mighty oak has
9 fallen," with the passing of Helen, and she leaves behind an
10 incredible legacy of activism, conservationism, and deep love for
11 Washington's natural environment and the outdoor spaces we all share;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of
13 Representatives, on behalf of the people of the State of Washington,
14 recognize and honor the life and work of Helen Engle.

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