

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2020-4650, by Representative Kretz

1 WHEREAS, Even before statehood, farmers played an important role
2 in the Oregon Territory providing the food and fiber early residents
3 relied upon; and

4 WHEREAS, Today the state's 37,500 farms together make up the
5 second largest business sector, with more than ninety percent of
6 these farms being family-owned; and

7 WHEREAS, Washington agriculture represents thirteen percent of
8 the Washington economy, amounting to fifty-one billion dollars in
9 revenue and 164,400 jobs; and

10 WHEREAS, The Washington Farm Bureau was formed in 1920, one year
11 after the creation of the American Farm Bureau Federation, to ensure
12 that rural citizens enjoyed the same benefits as those living in the
13 cities, including rural electrification and telephone access; and

14 WHEREAS, The first county Farm Bureaus in Washington were
15 established in Columbia, Kittitas, Skagit, Spokane, Yakima, and Walla
16 Walla counties; and

17 WHEREAS, Today the Washington Farm Bureau consists of twenty-five
18 county Farm Bureau organizations representing the interests of
19 farmers at the local, state, and national level; and

20 WHEREAS, The Washington Farm Bureau is the largest all-
21 encompassing agricultural organization in the state, and is commonly
22 referred to as the "Voice of Washington Agriculture"; and

