HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2018-4662, by Representatives Muri, Kilduff, Holy, Klippert, Morris, Orwall, Sawyer, Stambaugh, Ryu, Barkis, McDonald, and Dye

1 WHEREAS, On December 18, 2017, Amtrak train No. 501 derailed near 2 DuPont in southern Pierce County at 7:33 a.m. on its inaugural trip 3 of the new stretch of track known as the Point Defiance bypass, with 4 seventy-seven passengers and six crew on board; and

5 WHEREAS, Eighty-five people were injured and three lost their 6 lives; and

7 WHEREAS, Second Lieutenant Robert McCoy, an Army medic, was 8 driving on Interstate 5 just as the train derailed and without 9 thought to his welfare, immediately jumped out of his truck and began 10 carrying the wounded out of harm's way and off the road to safety, 11 and then climbed into a suspended train car to help those trapped 12 inside; and

WHEREAS, Eagle Scout Daniel Konzelman and Alicia Hoverson, also came upon the scene just after the derailment and quickly helped extricate passengers from the damaged train and were a calming presence to the injured; and

WHEREAS, DuPont Mayor Mike Courts and his team just happened to be at City Hall that morning to begin a planned emergency training, and began coordination of the emergency response, opening up City Hall for emergency workers, taking in those affected, providing food, water, and triage services; and

WHEREAS, Many other pedestrians, police officers, firefighters,
nurses, and doctors jumped into action to help those in need; and

1 WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee immediately declared a state of 2 emergency, activated the State Emergency Operations Center to 3 coordinate resources to support state and local officials, and 4 mobilized the state National Guard to help as needed; and

5 WHEREAS, Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier and the Pierce 6 County Incident Management Team (IMT), led by Captain Jerry Lawrence 7 from the Pierce County Sheriff's Department and Captain Scott Engle 8 of Puyallup Police, spearheaded a multiagency response; and

9 WHEREAS, West Pierce Fire District, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, the 10 City of DuPont, the Pierce County Medical Examiner, the Governor's 11 Office, the Washington State Department of Transportation, the State of 12 Patrol, the Federal Bureau Investigation, the National 13 Transportation Safety Board, Amtrak, the Red Cross, and other 14 agencies showed exemplary coordination to help the injured and address the myriad of issues of a catastrophe of this magnitude with 15 16 remarkable effectiveness and sensitivity to the injured and their 17 families; and

18 WHEREAS, Madigan Army Medical Center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, 19 St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, 20 St. Joseph Medical Center in Tacoma, Good Samaritan Hospital in 21 Puyallup, and Allenmore Hospital in Tacoma all treated victims of the 22 train crash; and

WHEREAS, Joint Base Lewis-McChord quickly opened up its facility to the general public to accommodate traffic from the impassable southbound lanes of I-5;

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House 27 of Representatives hereby honors the men and women who acted so 28 promptly, efficiently, and effectively in a time of extraordinary 29 confusion and emotional stress to aid the injured and their families 30 and console those who lost loved ones; and

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be 32 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of 33 Representatives to those mentioned in this resolution.

34

35 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of 36 Resolution 4662 adopted by the House of Representatives 37 January 30, 2018

38

p. 2

