

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 94-4724, by Representatives Moak, Rayburn, Bray, Lisk and J. Kohl

WHEREAS, In 1869, an abstemious minister-turned-physician named Thomas Bramwell Welch developed an unfermented grape "wine" -- the world's first grape juice -- for communion services at his church; and

WHEREAS, The Concord grape, used to make this juice and assorted other products, can be grown successfully in the Eastern region of our state but few other regions throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, In the Kennewick Valley some fifty years ago grew the greatest number of Concord grapes in the world, then grown in the vineyards of the Church Grape Juice Company, which was purchased by Welch's in the 1950's; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Welch's company bears its founder's name, with processing and storage facilities in Kennewick and Grandview, is the leading purveyor of bottled and canned grape juice, grape jelly and jam, squeezable spreads, frozen grape juice, and frozen noncitrus juice cocktails; and

WHEREAS, The Welch's company is a company whose history and tradition has always been, and continues to be, one of innovation and outstanding quality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the State of Washington salute Welch's during this, its 125th year, and wish it and all of its employees and Washington grape growers long and continued success; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to Welch's Chief Executive Officer Everett Baldwin, Kennewick Plant Director Bill Ransom, and Grandview Plant Superintendent Vince Anderson.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
Resolution 4724 adopted by the House of Representatives
March 14, 1994.

Marilyn Showalter, Chief Clerk