

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 99-4718, by Representatives Romero, Dickerson, Wolfe, Ogden and Wensman

WHEREAS, The indomitable men and women of the indefatigable Kalakala Foundation have tirelessly and steadfastly worked in an historic rescue of an historic treasure; and

WHEREAS, For more than eight years, the Kalakala Foundation has pursued the regional and national dream of preserving a vital piece of our collective history for the enjoyment and education of current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Washingtonians and others all over the nation, thanks to the Kalakala Foundation, can now join in celebrating the return to Washington of the Kalakala, a grand and wonderful vessel if ever there was one; and

WHEREAS, Even the most searching observer would have to look far and wide to find a player in the maritime heritage of Puget Sound more valuable than the Kalakala; and

WHEREAS, The Kalakala Foundation has put together a thoughtful, impressive exhibit for the Rotunda of the Legislative Building, and the hard-working organization offered an equally thoughtful, impressive presentation at the Washington State Capitol Museum earlier this week; and

WHEREAS, One year ago, the historic motor ferry Kalakala and her crew reentered Puget Sound to the heartfelt cheers of an appreciative citizenry; and

WHEREAS, The two hundred seventy-six foot, seven hundred fifty ton vessel, launched on her maiden voyage in July 1935, and retired from ferry service in October 1967, had the capacity to carry two thousand passengers and one hundred sixty automobiles in her gallant career of service to the grateful riders of her time; and

WHEREAS, Seattle to Bremerton and back was the primary route sailed at an average speed of seventeen and one-half knots by the Kalakala in her working days, and today the Kalakala Foundation envisions this great gem's future as a permanent, waterfront attraction for a very fortunate Puget Sound community; and

WHEREAS, This cherished jewel of Evergreen State waters boasts thirty thousand square feet of space that can, and will, be used to captivate, educate, and just generally thrill children of all ages for scores of years to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the state of Washington commends and commemorates the enduring and endearing spirit of the Kalakala Foundation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Co-Chief Clerks of the House of Representatives to Peter Bevis, President of the Kalakala Foundation, and to the other members of this illustrious organization.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
Resolution 4718 adopted by the House of Representatives
January 14, 2000.

Timothy A. Martin, Co-Chief Clerk

Cynthia Zehnder Co-Chief Clerk