

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4007**

58th Legislature  
2004 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 8, 2004  
Yeas 95 Nays 0

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 4, 2004  
Yeas 44 Nays 0

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4007** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4007

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2004 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2003 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Hinkle, Chopp, Haigh, Woods, Dunshee, Kirby, Boldt, O'Brien, Armstrong, DeBolt, Ahern, Newhouse, Simpson, Holmquist, Cairnes, Sump, Pearson, Shabro, Delvin, Hudgins, Linville, Conway, Skinner, Sullivan and Kenney

Read first time 01/24/2003. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

1            TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
2            AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3            REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4            UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE UNITED STATES  
5            POSTMASTER GENERAL, AND TO THE CITIZENS' STAMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF  
6            THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE:

7            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
8            the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
9            represent and petition as follows:

10           WHEREAS, Since the birth of this country, our nation owes our coal  
11           miners a debt we could never begin to repay for the difficult and  
12           dangerous job they perform so we could have the fuel we need to operate  
13           our industries and heat our homes; and

14           WHEREAS, The energy needs of communities throughout the nation have  
15           been met due to the hard work and dedication of American coal miners;  
16           and

17           WHEREAS, Millions of workers toiled in the nation's coal mines over  
18           the last century, risking both life and limb to fuel the nation's  
19           economic expansion, and through their manual labor made possible the

1 technological conveniences of modern American life, though those  
2 contributions to the nation's welfare are generally unknown to the  
3 public; and

4 WHEREAS, During the last century, over 100,000 coal miners have  
5 been killed in mining accidents in the nation's coal mines, and  
6 3,500,000 coal miners have suffered nonfatal injuries; and

7 WHEREAS, 100,000 coal miners have contracted Black Lung Disease as  
8 a direct result of their toil in the nation's coal mines; and

9 WHEREAS, Coal provides 50 percent of the nation's electricity and  
10 is an essential fuel for industries such as steel, cement, chemical,  
11 food, and paper; and

12 WHEREAS, Coal miners keep the nation supplied with an energy  
13 resource that produces electricity for the lowest cost, when compared  
14 to fuels other than nuclear, and which makes possible the country's  
15 unmatched productivity and prosperity; and

16 WHEREAS, Coal miners provide a vital pool of labor with the  
17 expertise to produce energy supplies from vast national coal reserves,  
18 which serves to buffer the country from a dangerous dependence on  
19 foreign energy fuels; and

20 WHEREAS, The United States has a demonstrated coal reserve of more  
21 than 500,000,000,000 tons, with an estimated 275,000,000,000 tons of  
22 recoverable reserves which, at current production rates, represents  
23 about 275 years of recoverable coal reserves; and

24 WHEREAS, These coal reserves represent about 95 percent of all  
25 fossil fuel reserves in the United States, about one-fourth of the  
26 world's known coal reserves; and

27 WHEREAS, Approximately two-thirds of all coal mined in the United  
28 States is transported by rail, making coal the largest single source of  
29 freight revenue for United States' railroads; and

30 WHEREAS, Transportation by railroad provided jobs for thousands of  
31 workers who built the infrastructure, maintained it, and loaded and  
32 unloaded coal; and

33 WHEREAS, It would be proper and fitting for our nation to recognize  
34 our coal miners, both past and present, for their contributions to this  
35 nation; and

36 WHEREAS, Coal mining continues to be the economic engine for many  
37 communities, providing jobs to areas with little economic diversity;  
38 and

1       WHEREAS, Coal mining provides an economic benefit far beyond its  
2 direct revenue, including billions of dollars in economic output and  
3 household earnings and hundreds of thousands of jobs in other  
4 industries;

5       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United  
6 States Postal service issue a postage stamp commemorating American coal  
7 miners, which would hold the promise of illustrating a colorful and  
8 historically rich segment of society for the benefit of school  
9 children, stamp collectors, educators, and the public.

10       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
11 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United  
12 States, the United States Postmaster General, the Citizens' Stamp  
13 Advisory Committee of the United States Postal Service, the President  
14 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
15 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
16 Washington.

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