

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.4702, by Representative Linville

WHEREAS, Jack B. and Ramona S. Cole led the state's oldest grocery company, Brown & Cole Stores, for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Both contributed to their community in many ways and were so honored, in part, by having been named Living Treasures by the city of Bellingham; and

WHEREAS, Jack and Ramona served their country during World War II: Jack in active duty in the European theatre, and Ramona in the war efforts at home; and

WHEREAS, They raised a family that carries on their legacy of service; and

WHEREAS, Their business, Brown & Cole Stores, now in its 97th year, is an outstanding example of corporate citizenship; and

WHEREAS, They lived their values of integrity, hard work, customer satisfaction, equality for all, and the importance of education; and

WHEREAS, Jack became an English-as-a-second-language tutor following his retirement, continuing to serve his community; and

WHEREAS, Both Jack and Ramona were much beloved by all who knew them for their warmth and humor; and

WHEREAS, After 65 years of marriage, Jack B. Cole passed away on November 4, 2005, and Ramona S. Cole passed away on January 22, 2006;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commend the life, work, and dedication of Jack and Ramona Cole and their commitment and service to Whatcom County, Washington State, and the United States of America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to the family of Jack and Ramona Cole.