

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.2007-4637, by Representatives Kessler, Skinner and VanDeWege

WHEREAS, Dan Harpole was a leader in the arts community and known throughout the nation for his strong and devoted public service; and

WHEREAS, He was a prominent advocate for the arts since graduating from The Evergreen State College in Olympia in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Once graduating from college, Dan moved to Port Townsend, where he lived for nineteen years and served as a Port Townsend City Council member from 1994 to 1996 and as a Jefferson County Commissioner from 1997 to 2000; and

WHEREAS, For eight years he was assistant program manager for Centrum, a nationally recognized nonprofit arts and creative education center in Port Townsend; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harpole was appointed to the Washington State Arts Commission by Governor Gary Locke in October 1995 where he served as a two-term member and was then elected Commission Chair in 1998; and

WHEREAS, In November 2000, Mr. Harpole moved to Boise, Idaho when he was unanimously chosen from 36 distinguished candidates as the new executive director of the Idaho Commission on the Arts; and

WHEREAS, He was chosen based on his reputation, achievements, and also for his optimistic, companionable disposition, and his ability to get things done; and

WHEREAS, While in Idaho, Mr. Harpole also served on the executive committee of the board of directors for the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and was elected president in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harpole has been awarded, in memoriam, the Chairman's Medal from the chair of the National Endowment for the Arts "for serving the NEA and arts in America with distinction"; and

WHEREAS, In his passing in December 2006, the state of Washington has lost a nationally renowned leader of the arts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the state of Washington, on behalf of the residents of the state of Washington, honor Dan Harpole's life as an arts enthusiast, public servant, father, and friend; 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 and friends of Dan Harpole.