

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2015-4606, by Representatives Lytton, Morris, Smith, Schmick, Kilduff, Tharinger, and Nealey

1 WHEREAS, Events at fairgrounds in Washington state attract
2 approximately 7.8 million people each year; and

3 WHEREAS, Fairs help educate Washington children through
4 cooperation with local schools, providing young people with
5 opportunities to learn where their food comes from, and other aspects
6 of agriculture and farm life that enhance classroom teaching in
7 science, math, social studies, reading, and art and support the
8 state's Essential Academic Learning Requirements; and

9 WHEREAS, Displays, demonstrations, and special events at fairs
10 and fairgrounds educate the public, offering many their first
11 opportunity to see piglets and calves nursing, chicks hatching, and
12 examples of local crops, and introducing people to the benefits of
13 farm life and the importance of agriculture, which is Washington's
14 largest employer; and

15 WHEREAS, Fairs provide members of 4-H and Future Farmers of
16 America and other young people with opportunities to learn and
17 demonstrate skills related to management, accounting, economics,
18 public speaking, and more, with research showing this experience
19 leads to better grades, greater interest in pursuing higher
20 education, less inclination toward risky behaviors, and stronger
21 family and community participation; and

22 WHEREAS, Fairs and activities at fairgrounds are sources of free
23 entertainment and free youth activities, which are particularly
24 important during difficult economic times, when 4-H enrollment grows
25 as parents look for positive activities for their children; and

26 WHEREAS, Fairs support communities, as a walk along any midway
27 confirms, with school organizations, churches, civic groups, and
28 others operating food booths, dunk tanks, and other fund-raisers in
29 support of everything from college scholarships to holiday food
30 baskets; and

31 WHEREAS, Fairgrounds also serve as important venues for youth
32 activities, community-related events, and cultural and other
33 activities;

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House
2 of Representatives acknowledge the value of fairs and fairgrounds,
3 which collectively represent the state's largest classroom, filled
4 with lifelong learning opportunities for the people of Washington;
5 and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
7 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of
8 Representatives to the Washington State Fairs Association.

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10 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
11 Resolution 4606 adopted by the House of Representatives
12 January 28, 2015
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Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk