

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2015-4618, by Representative Johnson

1 WHEREAS, It is the policy of the Washington State House of  
2 Representatives to recognize excellence in all fields of endeavor;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery has exhibited true excellence throughout  
5 his personal, professional, and public life; and

6 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery has exhibited the highest levels of  
7 excellence during his lengthy years of public service; and

8 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery attended and received an undergraduate  
9 degree in technical theater at California State University and then  
10 attended an MFA program in performing arts administration at Brooklyn  
11 College; and

12 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery married Anne Napier, who is the CEO for  
13 the Memorial Foundation, Vice President of Communications and  
14 Development at Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital, and also a community  
15 leader, and together they have two daughters and three  
16 granddaughters; and

17 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery worked in and managed regional theatres in  
18 New York, Arkansas, and Oregon before moving to Yakima, Washington;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, The Capitol Theatre originally opened in 1920 as the  
21 largest theatre in the Pacific Northwest, and for many years it was  
22 the crown jewel of Pantages style theatres, but it eventually fell

1 into disrepair and was almost completely destroyed by fire in 1975;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, A community effort began in Yakima to rebuild the  
4 Capitol Theatre to its former glory and it reopened in 1978 in the  
5 reconstruction of its grand old style; and

6 WHEREAS, The community brought in Steve Caffery to lead the  
7 effort for the Capitol Theatre to once again serve as the crown jewel  
8 of theatres in the Pacific Northwest; and

9 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery has been the CEO of the Capitol Theatre  
10 for the past 26 years, expanding it under his watch to include the  
11 construction of a new production center and the black-box 4th Street  
12 Theatre; and

13 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery led the Capitol Theatre through times of  
14 financial struggle during rough times in the economy, but helped to  
15 get the organization's finances back in shape to where it is thriving  
16 and profitable; and

17 WHEREAS, Under Steve Caffery's leadership, the Capitol Theatre  
18 has become an important part of Yakima's arts, with its stage being  
19 home to the productions of numerous local organizations such as the  
20 Yakima Symphony Orchestra, Town Hall, and Community Concerts, and  
21 annual attendance now exceeding Yakima's population; and

22 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery and his wife, Anne, have been actively  
23 involved in Rotary, hosting more than a dozen exchange students from  
24 throughout the world and cochairing the 2004 Rotary District 5060  
25 Conference in Yakima; and

26 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery has been a key player in the economic and  
27 cultural development of downtown Yakima, having served as the  
28 President of the Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau and  
29 Vice President of the Yakima Downtown Association; and

30 WHEREAS, Steve Caffery is retiring as Capitol Theatre's CEO after  
31 many years of dedicated service to the community;

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House  
33 of Representatives honor Steve Caffery for his years of dedicated  
34 service, his personal and professional integrity, and for making  
35 Yakima and the state of Washington a better place to live, work, and  
36 raise a family; and

1       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
2 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of  
3 Representatives to Steve Caffery.

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