HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2016-4675, by Representative Fey

- 1 WHEREAS, Joan M. "Joni" Earl is retiring from her position as 2 Chief Executive Officer of Sound Transit after leading the agency for 3 fifteen years; and
- WHEREAS, Ms. Earl's prior government experience as Deputy County
 Executive of Snohomish County, City Manager of Mill Creek, and
 Director of Internal Management and Chief Fiscal Officer of Kitsap
 County together made her uniquely suited to pay attention to both the
 big picture and the financial bottom line, and she brought to Sound
 Transit laser-sharp business sense and drive for results; and
- 10 WHEREAS, From the time she was named Acting Executive Director in 11 January 2001 and made Executive Director six months later, Ms. Earl 12 instilled an agency culture of accountability and transparency around 13 doing public projects; and
- 14 WHEREAS, In her 15 years leading Sound Transit, the agency 15 evolved to become one of the nation's leading transit agencies, known 16 for progress, professionalism, and industry achievement; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Earl leadership Ms. and her team dramatically 18 restructured the way Sound Transit manages major projects, which by 2003 led to the restoration of \$500 million in federal funding for 19 20 building the initial segment of the Link regional light rail system; 21 and

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1 WHEREAS, Link light rail service opened between Seattle and Sea-2 Tac Airport in 2009, providing residents and visitors with fast, 3 dependable service 20 hours a day; and

WHEREAS, As Sound Transit's CEO and throughout her public career, Ms. Earl has forged important partnerships, working closely with elected and community leaders at all levels and across political aisles, in particular with the late Representative Ruth Fisher, after whom the Sound Transit board room is named; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit's regional system of ST Express buses, Sounder trains, and Link light rail will provide more than 41 million rides this year, improving the economic and social health of central Puget Sound, home to 40 percent of the state's population, 70 percent of our state's economic activity, and 97 percent of our state's congestion; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Earl's extraordinary vision and leadership at Sound Transit provide a legacy for generations to come, truly leaving Puget Sound communities and our economy better than she found them, and we are grateful for her remarkable contributions to the state of Washington;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of Representatives recognize and congratulate Ms. Joni Earl for her lifetime of outstanding public service culminating in the successful reinvention of Sound Transit, and for her dedication to transparency and accountability in doing the public's business; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to Ms. Earl and to the Board of Directors of Sound Transit.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4675 adopted by the House of Representatives
February 26, 2016

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