
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4010

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Morris and Lytton

Read first time 02/13/17. Referred to Committee on Capital Budget.

1 TO THE WASHINGTON STATE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS, HILARY
2 FRANZ, AND TO THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES,
3 AND TO THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF NATURAL RESOURCES, AND TO THE
4 COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES, AND TO THE FAMILY OF HARRIET A.
5 SPANEL:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
8 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, Blanchard State Forest is located on the Skagit-Whatcom
10 county border, in an area represented in the Legislature by the
11 Senator and Representatives from the Fortieth District; and

12 WHEREAS, Blanchard was donated to the State of Washington after a
13 major fire in 1925 and slowly restored over the next half century
14 through the hard work of the Washington State Department of Natural
15 Resources; and

16 WHEREAS, Today, many residents of northern Skagit County and
17 southern Whatcom County routinely use the trails through the forest
18 for a variety of recreational activities; and

19 WHEREAS, The working forestlands at Blanchard Forest create
20 wealth that benefits organizations and schools in the surrounding
21 areas; and

22 WHEREAS, Harriet Spanel served the Fortieth District in the
23 Washington State Legislature for twenty-two years, from 1987 until

1 her retirement in 2009. Altogether, Harriet Spanel served three terms
2 in the House of Representatives followed by four in the Senate; and

3 WHEREAS, Harriet Spanel showed a committed interest to
4 environmental stewardship throughout her career, serving on the
5 Bellingham Planning Commission and Bellingham Parks and Recreation
6 Board prior to her election to the House. While in the Legislature,
7 Spanel was known for her advocacy for environmental and natural
8 resource preservation; and

9 WHEREAS, While Senator Spanel had many legislative
10 accomplishments, her work to protect the Chuckanut, Blanchard, and
11 Lake Whatcom forestlands for multiple uses by future generations was
12 of particular importance; and

13 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature has previously
14 memorialized Senator Spanel for her many contributions to both the
15 Fortieth District and the State of Washington; and

16 WHEREAS, Harriet A. Spanel passed away on February 2, 2016,
17 surrounded by her friends and family at her home in Bellingham;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray, subject to
19 the Legislature approving funding for the name change, that the
20 Washington State Board of Natural Resources rename the Blanchard
21 State Forest as the "Harriet A. Spanel-Blanchard State Forest" in
22 honor of Harriet Spanel for her many years of committed service to
23 the region.

24 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
25 transmitted to Hilary Franz, the Washington State Commissioner of
26 Public Lands, the Northwest Region Office of the Washington State
27 Department of Natural Resources, the Washington State Board of
28 Natural Resources, the Committee on Geographic Names, and the family
29 of Harriet A. Spanel.

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