

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2019-4636, by Representatives Cody, Pettigrew, Jinkins, Dolan, Thai, Fey, Santos, Pollet, Lovick, Kilduff, Riccelli, Ryu, Tarleton, Tharinger, Frame, Ormsby, Goodman, Stonier, Pellicciotti, Ortiz-Self, Leavitt, Mead, Gregerson, Ramos, Callan, Walen, Macri, Shewmake, Blake, Slatter, Fitzgibbon, Hansen, Doglio, Wylie, Valdez, Peterson, Paul, Lekanoff, Sullivan, DeBolt, Dufault, Dye, Eslick, Boehnke, Dent, Kretz, Harris, Mosbrucker, Maycumber, MacEwen, Klippert, Van Werven, Schmick, Jenkin, Corry, Shea, Orcutt, McCaslin, Ybarra, Volz, Chandler, Goehner, Sutherland, Vick, and Hoff

1 WHEREAS, Sister Sharon Park is a Washington native, born in
2 Tacoma, raised in Seattle, and educated at Christ the King Catholic
3 School, Bishop Blanchet High School, and Seattle University, where
4 she earned a degree in nursing; and

5 WHEREAS, Sister Sharon has devoted her life to the service of
6 others and working to improve the lives of all Washingtonians,
7 especially the most vulnerable and those struggling with poverty. She
8 demonstrated in her early years by entering the Dominican Sisters of
9 Edmonds in 1963, through her nursing work at the Dominican hospital
10 in Aberdeen, providing visiting nurse services to low-income
11 families, and serving as a member of the Archdiocesan Sister's
12 Council social justice committee; and

13 WHEREAS, As a member of the Archdiocesan Sister's Council social
14 justice committee, Sister Sharon was selected to participate in a
15 six-month experience learning the legislative process. When the
16 Washington State Catholic Conference was formed, Sister Sharon and
17 Sister Margaret Casey were selected to be the Conference's first
18 lobbyists; and

19 WHEREAS, In the late 1980's Sister Sharon earned a master's
20 degree in theological studies with a concentration in biomedical
21 ethics from Seattle University. Her expertise in nursing and ethics
22 was especially valuable when she returned to the Catholic Conference,

1 as the State Legislature worked on issues related to health care,
2 abortion, and end-of-life care; and

3 WHEREAS, For more than four decades, Sister Sharon Park
4 represented the State's Catholic bishops, including serving as
5 Executive Director of the Washington State Catholic Conference for
6 twenty years; and

7 WHEREAS, Legislators and lobbyists often describe her as an
8 intelligent, thoughtful, and caring member of the Capitol community,
9 who would also be an effective negotiator on some of the most
10 difficult issues facing policymakers including homelessness, hunger,
11 abortion, services for children, foster care, improving mental health
12 services, the death penalty, and many more; and

13 WHEREAS, Sister Sharon retired from the Catholic Conference in
14 2017 but continues her work as a leader of the PREPARES Program that
15 "walks the journey" with pregnant and parenting women, men, and
16 families, who find themselves lacking a healthy support network, and
17 as a Member of the Boards of Trustees of Catholic Community Services
18 of Western Washington and Catholic Housing Services of Western
19 Washington;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
21 honor Sister Sharon Park for her lifelong commitment to helping
22 others, her tremendous example of living out the values of Catholic
23 teaching, and her many decades of service as a legislative and
24 community advocate; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copies of this resolution be
26 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of
27 Representatives to Sister Sharon Park.

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29 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
30 Resolution 4636 adopted by the House of Representatives

31 April 25, 2019
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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk