

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2020-4670, by Representative Dufault

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, Ricardo R. Garcia was born in San Diego, Texas, attended  
5 a bilingual elementary and high school where he learned to speak,  
6 read, and write fluently in Spanish and English, and graduated from  
7 high school in 1957; and

8       WHEREAS, Ricardo R. Garcia entered the United States Army,  
9 training in Fort Ord, California, serving in South Korea, and finally  
10 ending his service at Fort Lewis, Washington; and

11       WHEREAS, It was the United States Army that brought him to the  
12 Yakima Valley where he participated in Army maneuvers, became  
13 involved in the Valley with farm workers from Texas doing harvest  
14 work, and met his future wife, Monica; and

15       WHEREAS, Ricardo R. Garcia attended the local community college  
16 in 1966 and graduated from Central Washington University; and

17       WHEREAS, Ricardo R. Garcia became a strong advocate for farm  
18 workers and, as part of that advocacy, was one of four men who helped  
19 to create the nation's second noncommercial Spanish language radio  
20 station, KDNA, in Granger, Washington, in December 1979; and

21       WHEREAS, KDNA became known as Radio Cadena, "La Voz Del  
22 Campesino," — or, "The Voice of the Farm Worker," — because it  
23 educated farm workers, advocated farm worker's organizations, and

1 provided Spanish language programs to non-English speaking families;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Ricardo R. Garcia served as station manager of KDNA for  
4 many years, but is now retired from the radio station; and

5 WHEREAS, KDNA 91.9 FM is the only public and educational radio  
6 station in Spanish that transmits twenty-four hours a day in  
7 Washington state and reaches listeners across southeast Washington  
8 and northern Oregon, and via the internet; and

9 WHEREAS, KDNA Radio Cadena recently celebrated its fortieth  
10 anniversary broadcasting on the air and reaching about 17,000 people  
11 while they work in the fields and drive home from packing warehouses;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Ricardo R. Garcia remains active on local boards and  
14 advisory groups to state agencies, a community foundation, and  
15 consults on health and education matters;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives  
17 of the state of Washington recognize Ricardo R. Garcia and KDNA Radio  
18 Cadena 91.9 FM for outstanding achievements and contributions to the  
19 Latino farm worker community and Spanish-speaking people of Central  
20 Washington; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be  
22 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of  
23 Representatives to Ricardo R. Garcia and representatives of KDNA  
24 Radio Cadena 91.9 FM.

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