

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2020-4676, by Representative Dufault

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

3       WHEREAS, Greg G. Stewart was born in Olympia, Washington, and  
4 attended Centralia College and Washington State University where he  
5 graduated with a degree in agricultural economics; and

6       WHEREAS, Greg Stewart served in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1969,  
7 including a tour of duty in Vietnam; and

8       WHEREAS, Greg Stewart and his wife, Karen, have been married  
9 since November 4, 1967, and raised two daughters, Tami and Stephanie;  
10 and

11       WHEREAS, Greg Stewart was hired in 1972 by the Central Washington  
12 Fair Association to be the assistant general manager under long time  
13 fair manager Hugh J. King; and

14       WHEREAS, When Hugh J. King retired in 1973, Greg was appointed  
15 general manager of what was then a five-day fair, overseeing a full-  
16 time staff of three people; and

17       WHEREAS, Under Greg Stewart's leadership, the one hundred twenty  
18 acre Central Washington Fairgrounds were transformed with renovations  
19 to the historic Agriculture Building, Modern Living Building, Pioneer  
20 Hall, and Expo Hall; and

21       WHEREAS, Greg Stewart oversaw construction of new buildings on  
22 the fairgrounds, including the Deccio Administration building; the  
23 Yakima County Stadium, where the Yakima Valley Pippins minor league

1 baseball team plays; the eight thousand seat, thirteen million dollar  
2 Yakima Valley SunDome, where the Yakima Sun Kings play; and a host of  
3 other events that are held throughout the year, including concerts  
4 and rodeos; and

5 WHEREAS, Greg Stewart helped to build the fairgrounds, now known  
6 as State Fair Park, into a statewide attraction, with twenty-three  
7 full-time employees, a ten-day event that is recognized as one of the  
8 premier events in the Northwest, and which has become the largest  
9 single-family entertainment event in Eastern Washington with more  
10 than three hundred thousand visitors each year; and

11 WHEREAS, Under Greg Stewart's guidance in 2000, the former Yakima  
12 Meadows horse racetrack was turned into a racetrack for sprint cars  
13 and dirt track autos; and

14 WHEREAS, Greg Stewart was involved in numerous professional and  
15 community activities, including the Yakima Rotary Club, Greater  
16 Yakima Chamber of Commerce, Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention  
17 Bureau, and became the recipient of the International Association of  
18 Fairs and Expositions Hall of Fame award and leadership award from  
19 the Yakima Latino Professional Association; and

20 WHEREAS, Greg Stewart recently retired as general manager and  
21 fair board president after an illustrious and unparalleled forty-  
22 eight year career dedicated to the State of Washington and its fair  
23 industry;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives  
25 of the State of Washington recognize Gregory G. Stewart for his  
26 outstanding achievements and public service to his community, fair  
27 goers, and the State of Washington; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
29 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of  
30 Representatives to Greg Stewart and his family.

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32 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of  
33 Resolution 4676 adopted by the House of Representatives  
34 March 2, 2020  
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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk