HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2021-4620, by Representatives Graham, Chambers, Jacobsen, Robertson, Dufault, Eslick, MacEwen, Abbarno, McCaslin, Mosbrucker, Klippert, Dye, Walsh, Ybarra, Fitzgibbon, Boehnke, Leavitt, Bronoske, Schmick, Barkis, Riccelli, Lovick, Sells, Corry, Orwall, Shewmake, Dent, Chandler, Kraft, Ryu, Goehner, Walen, Klicker, Callan, Caldier, and Chase

- 1 WHEREAS, Firefighters in the State of Washington risk their lives 2 every day to protect the lives, property, and well-being of our 3 citizens; and
- WHEREAS, There are over 8,000 men and women who serve as firefighters and over 10,000 who have served as volunteer firefighters in the State of Washington; and
- WHEREAS, 16 of Washington state's firefighters, both active and retired, have died since 2019, as well as two volunteer firefighters; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Firefighters have continued fulfilling their sworn 11 duties, despite the threat of COVID-19 in our state; and
- 12 WHEREAS, We recognize the additional risks firefighters have 13 faced as first responders on the frontlines of the pandemic in our 14 nation; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Last year, our state experienced some of the worst 16 wildfires in the nation, and the Washington wildfire season saw more 17 individual fires than any prior year, causing the air quality in our 18 state to reach unprecedented dangerous levels; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Firefighters braved these wildfires and COVID-19 20 concurrently, with their hard work and sacrifice undoubtedly saving 21 countless lives; and

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WHEREAS, Washington's firefighters deserve to be honored for their unwavering dedication to ensuring the well-being of our citizens amidst the wildfires and the pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives express its utmost gratitude to the courageous firefighters of our state for their diligent service and perseverance in the face of wildfires and the coronavirus pandemic; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transferred by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to the Washington State Fire Fighters' Association, the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters, the Washington State Association of Fire Chiefs, the Spokane Firefighters Union 29, the Cheney Firefighters Union 1919, the Medical Lake Volunteer Firefighters Association, the Airway Heights Volunteer Firefighters Association, and the Washington State Board for Volunteer Fire Fighters and Reserve Officers.

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I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4620 adopted by the House of Representatives

March 23, 2021

Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk

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