

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2023-4606, by Representatives Leavitt, Orwall, Ryu, Mena, Rule, Simmons, Cortes, Bronoske, Callan, Gregerson, Slatter, Paul, Chambers, Doglio, Reeves, Macri, Ortiz-Self, and Davis

1 WHEREAS, Director Lourdes E. Alvarado-Ramos served for 22 years
2 defending our nation and achieving the rank of Command Sergeant Major
3 at Madigan Army Medical Center and Troop Command at Joint Base Lewis-
4 McChord; and

5 WHEREAS, Command Sergeant Major Alvarado-Ramos served with
6 distinction, being awarded the Legion of Merit, Order of Military
7 Medical Merit, Expert Field Medical Badge, and Meritorious Service
8 Medals; and

9 WHEREAS, Director Alvarado-Ramos sought knowledge and skill with
10 education from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of
11 Government Executive Program, the University of Washington's
12 Executive Management Program, and holds a Master's Degree in Health
13 Care Administration; and

14 WHEREAS, Director Alvarado-Ramos continued to serve her community
15 and her state on Governor Jay Inslee's Executive Cabinet and as the
16 Chair of the Washington Military Transition Council; and

17 WHEREAS, Director Alvarado-Ramos continued to serve her country
18 as the President of the National Association of State Directors of
19 Veterans Affairs and on the board of directors for the National
20 Association of State Veterans Homes; and

21 WHEREAS, Director Alvarado-Ramos served our state in the
22 Washington Department of Veteran's Affairs since 1993 and was
23 appointed to the governor's cabinet in 2013; and

1 WHEREAS, In her time as Director, she has tirelessly worked to
2 help servicemembers struggling with mental health concerns and to
3 support suicide prevention; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2014, she spearheaded the Washington Goes to the Dogs
5 Summit to connect veterans and providers to healing and service
6 opportunities; and

7 WHEREAS, Director Alvarado-Ramos established the position of
8 Traumatic Brain Injury Coordinator in partnership with the TBI
9 Council to educate the community, provide peer-to-peer mentorship,
10 and connect veterans with TBI to VA and community resources; and

11 WHEREAS, Under Director Alvarado-Ramos' leadership, new programs
12 and services were established to meet the needs of Washington's
13 veterans and their families, including opening the new State Veterans
14 Home in Walla Walla in 2017 and creating new programs to serve
15 military spouses and LGBTQ+ veterans. She was also heavily involved
16 with the Veteran Employee Resource Group or VERG; and

17 WHEREAS, Director Alvarado-Ramos is a multiyear recipient of the
18 VA Pillar of Excellence Award, winning for her work on Homelessness
19 in 2014, Military Transition Council in 2015, Incarcerated Veterans
20 Program in 2016, Community Partnership in 2017, and the Veterans
21 Corps Program in 2018; and

22 WHEREAS, Director Alavarado-Ramos' compassion, dedication, and
23 mentorship have prepared a generation of leaders and public servants
24 to carry on her legacy; and

25 WHEREAS, Director Alvarado-Ramos, known to her community as
26 Alfie, has not once allowed her commitment to servicemembers past and
27 present to falter in all those years of service;

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That on behalf of the people of
29 the state, and more specifically the more than 520,000 veterans who
30 call Washington home, the House of Representatives express its deep
31 gratitude to Director Alvarado-Ramos, and is honored by the awesome
32 legacy of service and dedication she leaves behind.

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