

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.2009-4631, by Representative Wallace

WHEREAS, The Washington State Achievers Scholarship Program was founded in 2000 to assist high school students striving for higher education; and

WHEREAS, The Achievers Scholarship Program was created through a collaborative effort by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the College Success Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Sixteen high schools in Washington are Achievers schools with a focus on preparing students for a college education with mentors and scholarship opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The Achievers Scholarship Program aims to create a positive environment and provide funding for children of low-income families to attend college; and

WHEREAS, The Achievers Scholarship Program works actively with teachers to enforce the three Rs: Rigor in courses, relevance of the courses and coursework, and relationships in creating a college-going culture; and

WHEREAS, Before the creation of the program, only nine percent of children from low-income families earned a bachelor's degree; and

WHEREAS, Seventy-five percent of the participants in the Achievers Scholarship Program are expected to receive a bachelor's degree; and

WHEREAS, The Achievers Scholarship Program is a highly successful effort to increase college enrollment of students in Washington and has earned recognition for its contributions to education and youth;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the role of the Washington State Achievers Scholarship Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to all sixteen Achievers' high schools, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the College Success Foundation.